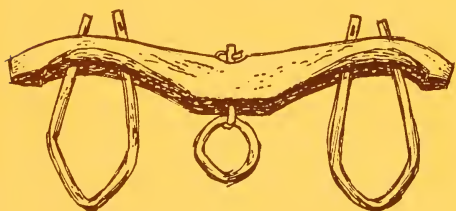


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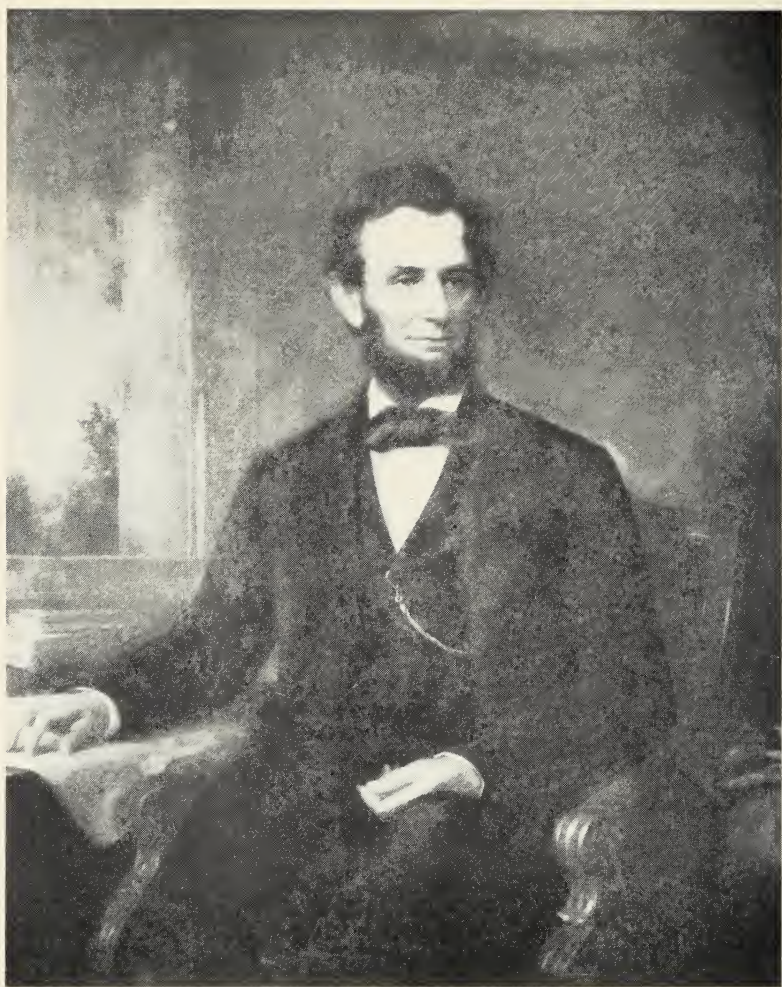
HENRIETTA CALHOUN HORNER

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

A New Portrait



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Portrait by James R. Lambdin
(In the Possession of Oliver R. Barrett)

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

A New Portrait

BY
EMANUEL HERTZ, A.M., LL.D.

IN TWO VOLUMES

VOLUME II

FOREWORD by NICHOLAS MURRAY BUTLER

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN

A New Portrait

VOLUME TWO

LETTERS AND DOCUMENTS

INTRODUCTION TO VOLUME II

I HAD hardly begun the study of Abraham Lincoln when I found periods of his life entirely unaccounted for among the documents published in the standard editions of his works. I found a great many lapses, omissions of comment on questions of momentous import, questions which I felt he must have considered, and about which he must have spoken. Every new discovery began to fill these gaps and explained his conduct in certain situations, and made futile any charge that he was at any time silent on the important questions of the hour.

It soon became apparent that this task of accumulating and compiling new Lincoln material must be undertaken with thoroughness, if the work is to contribute toward the evolution of that great figure. It is therefore of importance that some day all the material be assembled in one work—the old as well as the new. And so I began to assemble all the original material which had never been published and which came from the owners for the first time; all of the material which appeared at any time in the auction rooms and was preserved in full or in part in the catalogues of the sales; all of the material which was held by private owners who could be traced and who were willing to help by furnishing copies of their documents; all the material which has appeared in text or facsimile in the magazines or in the press; all of the material which had appeared from time to time in addresses of contemporaries, pamphlets, diaries and biographies of those who came in contact with Lincoln and who received letters from him; all the material to be found among the archives of the Governmental Departments in Washington, or in the capitals or in the libraries and historical societies of the different States; all the material in the compiled records of the History of the War of the Rebellion, and all records in the Departments of State, War, Navy, Interior and in the Department of Justice; all the material found among the private papers in the Library of Congress of such statesmen as Seward, Stanton, Johnson, Chase, Welles, Schurz, Butler and others; all of the material to be found in the State and regimental histories, records of Grand Army or-

ganizations, and all histories of major and minor engagements of the Civil War; in short, every source, every artery, every nook and corner in which this material could possibly be found, not overlooking the accumulations of newspaper files from 1832 to this day, must be scrutinized. The court records in the different counties and districts in which he practiced had to be taken into consideration. The original Lincoln material in these courts has, for the most part, disappeared. The two cases in the office of the Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States have neither Lincoln's papers nor briefs. And so I propose to publish some of these which I gathered with as little comment as possible, for Lincoln is his own best commentator, in order:

(1) To supply those items to readers and students which they cannot find in any of the publications of Lincoln's works.

(2) To furnish every item, whether complete or incomplete, as I find it in this and in future publications.

(3) To give all owners of Lincoln material an opportunity to join the ranks of those who would bring about a complete compilation of Lincoln's written or spoken word, without waiting for some distant Anniversary Celebration of Lincoln to begin this essential work.

(4) If, in reading these letters and documents as they appear in my compilation, anyone, anywhere, has anything of Lincoln's which will explain or define his attitude or his ideas, or supply the explanation for one of his many endorsements on applications which came to him in great numbers, this is the time for him to come forward.

(5) The great mass of letters written to voters in Illinois during his period of political activity from 1844 to 1860 should now be gathered and given to the world.

I have gathered Lincoln material of every kind: legal documents, letters, checks, notes, receipts, endorsements, briefs, surveys, unpublished messages to the United States Senate and to the House of Representatives, proclamations, diplomatic correspondence with all foreign rulers, general orders—over a hundred draft orders—omitting military and other appointive commissions only. Aside from this one class of documents, I have taken all, be they long or short, be they formal or intimate, whatever he wrote or spoke I have assembled—all to be published at

some future day—always provided that the item has not appeared in its complete or exact form in the Tandy-Gettysburg edition of Lincoln's works, nor in the Putnam-Lapsley edition, nor in the Tracey collection nor in the pioneer work of Ida M. Tarbell and contained in the last editions of her "Life of Lincoln." I have included some items which appear in Paul M. Angle's splendid book—and that for two reasons: In the first place, I was the first to discover them and I had published them in pamphlet form or gave them to the *New York Times* the moment they came to me. I gave them to Mr. Angle, even as he generously gave me a number of items. And in the second place, he has no objection to my including them in this work in order to demonstrate what one worker may accomplish.

A number of leaders of the Bar, both of Illinois and of other States—two authors particularly—maintain that Lincoln's legal training was the deciding factor in his preparation for his Presidential tasks. And yet, with a few exceptions, his important legal documents have never been published, and I have for the first time attempted to assemble many such documents of every nature and description, so that members of his profession are enabled to see how much sustained legal work this prairie lawyer actually performed, without the use of a secretary, at a time when the typewriting machine was unknown. The American Bar should help assemble every legal paper which Lincoln ever prepared; especially as a great many of these are treasured by lawyers as souvenirs of Lincoln, and thus do their share in evolving that noble advocate of deserving causes, as he looms from the different forums where he spent upwards of twenty years of his life. All his legal papers, when assembled some day in the near future, will reveal the man who aided, who labored, who pleaded, who plodded, who suffered, in order that justice might prevail in local causes, even as he afterward strove that universal justice might prevail between the warring sections of his distracted country.

As I have no desire to speak for Lincoln, nor abbreviate or digest anything he ever said or wrote, I have concluded to collect all he said or wrote, as he spoke and wrote, all his letters, be they long or short, all his documents, all his endorsements in *hæc verbæ* exactly as they fell from his lips or from his pen. And of such as

are here included nothing is omitted, nothing is added, no differentiation between what is more important or what is of minor importance is made, for every word is important; hence the reprinting of letters in full which have heretofore been printed in part only, or parts of which have been erroneously printed.

In doing this work, I had to go through most, if not all, of the contemporary biographies of practically all those who came in contact, not only with Lincoln, but with those who were part of the great controversy and of the Civil War. And now, the final effort is this appeal to all who have this material or who know of others who have it.

If it could but be made clear how Lincoln's name and fame have suffered by the idolatrous worship of his letters which involves their being withheld from the public at a time when they are needed to clear up his family life, his relations with his Cabinet, and with his generals, as well as with the political leaders in the loyal States—nay even with many of the leaders in the Southern and border States—we would easily win this struggle; for I will not believe that there is a human being living at this time who desires to injure Lincoln's name and fame by withholding these essential historical data from the world—which is making its final estimate of the great Emancipator.

Almost half of his letters to Stanton are still missing. Almost all of his letters to his Attorney-Generals, both Blair and Speed, are missing. Only four appear in all of the so-called complete works; and so we can go from Department to Department, with the records incomplete; and here we have many of them for the first time. Each scrap is important, each endorsement is, or may be, the decision in an important case. Each letter is the result of conferences, of problems mooted and solved, generally to the satisfaction of all.

A great many Lincoln letters, documents and endorsements of letters, of requests directed to Lincoln, saw the light for the first time when they appeared in auction rooms where and when libraries collected during a lifetime were finally dispersed. Many a contemporary who wrote to Lincoln or to whom Lincoln wrote thus contributes, through the dispersal of his estate, some information essential to the history of the life of Lincoln. While many of these are only referred to in the sales catalogue by date

and name, some striking items find their way in complete form, some even in facsimile, into the catalogue, and the extracts of some of the others not deemed of sufficient importance by the cataloguer are listed in order to give the purchaser who resides at a distance some idea as to what the item is.

And so I believe that this is the first time that these catalogues give up their contents as to Lincoln. Some of these, generally the very important ones which were noticed by the press, have reached the standard collections, but a great many important documents have not. Most of these sales passed through the hands of Libbie & Co., Merwin Clayton Co., George D. Smith, The Anderson Galleries, The American Art Association, and the Henkels—father and son—and these have been examined, as have been all other sales and private catalogues available, both domestic and foreign, and their pages scrutinized in order to salvage these treasures and keep them in permanent form.

The interminable discussion as to whether the publication of a document affects its value, whether it is enhanced in price or reduced in the desirability of collectors, has not done Lincoln biographies any good. There are some people who desire to own documents which no one has seen, and during their lifetime that document cannot be seen or used. Whether it ever will be seen is a matter of speculation and does the Lincoln history positive harm. As there seem to be more Lincoln collectors than collectors of other autographs, and as a great many people, though they do not qualify as Lincoln collectors, still desire to have some Lincoln writing in their exclusive possession, the number of outstanding Lincoln items is exceedingly large; and the auction catalogues give us some help.

It must be remembered that all these precious items which have not been published are on paper. Many of them are so frail that they are glazed over by a thin Japanese fabric to preserve them from breaking and ultimate pulverization. A strange fatality has pursued many of these Lincoln documents. A whole mass was burnt during the great Chicago fire—what a priceless lot we have lost here alone! The cow which kicked the lantern which started the fire did a thorough job. The Confederate General McCausland, burnt McClure's Lincoln letters when he put Chambersburg to the torch. Lambert's collection was saved by a miracle

from the fire which raged in his library. Some of the finest specimens have just disappeared, as in the case of the letters which Lincoln wrote to Jane Addams' father. A great number have been mutilated by signature hunters in the first stages of collecting when the Huns were out in full force, and a great many more were destroyed or thrown away as worthless after the signature had been cut away from them. Enough has thus been lost, and we cannot, we should not, take any more chances with fire, destruction, falling apart and fading of letters and photographs exposed to sunlight, crumbling of paper, and accidental loss of these documents which may still be had. And it is for that reason as well that we should not wait for some event in the distant future before this work is begun.

The one great underlying purpose of my task must become apparent to all who see these unpublished works of Abraham Lincoln. It is not only to spread this information for the first time. It is not merely to correct some mistaken notion or conclusion—this is one of the inevitable results. As the historian had to surmise, the biographer had to guess; whereas with the missing document at hand he knows. It is not my intention to offer something final with the assurance which generally goes with such publications that we have exhausted the search, that we have collected all that has been missing. No, this would be deadly to the real purpose. It is not even my notion to rest content at having brought to light so many documents which disclose so many new phases of the War President. The work must go on till the task is completed. And in order that we may accomplish and bring about that great consummation we must have the help of all those who love Lincoln and who revere what he stands for in our Nation's life.

The children and grandchildren of his contemporaries must help and supply what they have inherited from their sires and grandsires, which came from Lincoln's hands. The granddaughter of John Bright furnished one of the most remarkable documents in this collection, definitely disclosing the manner of a spokesman Lincoln picked to arouse the conscience of the English people. And for that supreme task he enlisted the foremost Liberal statesman in England.

From the collection of the Duchess of Albans came one of the

noblest sentiments Lincoln ever uttered, at a time when the outlook was anything but promising—a document given her by Robert T. Lincoln while Minister to Great Britain.

The early years of Lincoln's activities are, alas, but very rarely accounted for. Aside from what I have collected, if you examine all the compilations, the year 1832 has fewer than ten items to its credit; the years 1833, 1834, 1835 and 1836 have fewer than five each; 1837 has fewer than ten; 1838 has one; 1839, 1840 and 1841 have fewer than ten each; 1842 and 1843 have fewer than twenty each; 1844, 1845, 1846 and 1847—momentous and formative years in his life—have fewer than fifteen each; 1848 and 1849 I am sure fewer than one-third of what he actually wrote has come down to us; the years 1850, 1851, 1852 and 1853 are particularly lean years; during the years 1854, 1855, 1856 and 1857 not one-fourth of what he wrote is here; the years 1858, 1859 and 1860, while fuller than the others, are surely not complete by sixty per cent., for he wrote in those eventful years more than almost any other public man.

The total number of additional or new material hitherto assembled, after the first appearance of what purported to be as complete an edition as the available material justified, is to be found in Miss Tarbell's "Life of Lincoln," in the last edition of which she publishes about two hundred and twenty-five new items, omitting about five hundred telegrams taken from the War Department and which were included in the first edition. The Lapsley-Putnam edition of Lincoln's work, which contains about seventy-seven new items and sixty-eight telegrams; Tracey's "Uncollected Letters," consisting of three hundred and forty-seven letters, notes, telegrams and speeches; the Tandy-Gettysburg edition contains five hundred new letters, speeches and documents; and Paul M. Angle's last work contains about four hundred and twenty-eight letters, documents, endorsements—making a total of about sixteen hundred in all of these compilations as they appear today.

The present volume contains a selection from a total of more than thirty-five hundred letters, legal documents and opinions, briefs and receipts, messages to Congress, proclamations, orders, speeches and endorsements; about a thousand of these have been brought to light for the first time and have never appeared in

print anywhere until released by me. Others have been gathered from books and pamphlets, but have never reached any of the editions of some, or of all, Lincoln's works; still others come from auction room catalogues and dealers' catalogues; a number from newspaper clippings covering the period of 1858 to 1930. In all, a collection aside from a few hundred purely legal documents, and fragmentary endorsements which have been omitted for the present in order to keep the book within reasonable bounds is made available. The first edition of Nicolay and Hay's monumental book was born of the request of Robert T. Lincoln to them to supplement their *History* by an edition of Lincoln's works. They exercised the right of rejecting some material as unimportant, even as Robert T. Lincoln himself took it upon himself to discard some things he considered unimportant until persuaded by Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler and others that all his father wrote was important and rightfully belonged to the Nation and to the world, and thus helped to persuade the son to donate the whole quantity of precious and priceless material to the Library of Congress, to be seen nineteen years hence. Nicolay and Hay's collection carries all but one hundred and eight items of this collection—and I was indeed fortunate to receive the list and description of these one hundred and eight items—although the full text was not given me up to the present moment.

Lincoln was on terms of intimacy with Seward, with Thurlow Weed, with Stanton, with Welles, with Speed, with Colfax, with Fessenden, and with scores of other men who came in contact with him, and he constantly wrote to most if not to all of them. A great many items appeared and still appear from time to time, particularly during succeeding Lincoln birthday celebrations, in the daily press throughout the country.

And then numberless libraries have one or two such items, either framed or in their vaults. The historical societies, the religious schools, the colleges and the college libraries have some such items which the custodian or librarian could easily furnish in order to increase the available material for student and author, and for a final compilation of Lincoln's works. Some of these have generously responded—others have not.

This new material was thus gathered from every source, the world over. From the Red Archives in Russia to the private pa-

pers of Victoria; from the British Museum to the Library of Congress and to the Huntington Library on the Pacific Coast; from the private papers and diaries of his contemporaries to the private collections of Lincoln students and autograph dealers in every important city of the world; from the records of the courts and the available newspaper files; from private owners to descendants of his contemporaries; from thousands of auction catalogues to all available private lists—from all these sources come these documents—completed by a thorough search of all the departments in Washington, and from the one hundred and twenty-eight volumes of the gigantic History of the War of the Rebellion, and from tens of thousands of newspaper clippings. And so the search is on, until the last scrap of Lincoln material shall have been found and reprinted.

For a long time, there was an effort to gather stories and humorous anecdotes about Lincoln, more or less mythical. I would now suggest that we build up the real man from his own undisputed, written documents. Here is a task, here is a labor of love that beckons to all Americans, to all lovers of what Lincoln loved and strove for. Here is an opportunity to hand down to the next generation the greatest man of the last century, fully documented, clearly delineated, honestly appraised, accurately described and vouched for by his own spoken and written word.

If all will turn over to any of the great journals in their locality, for publication, all they have of the great Emancipator, they will all become co-editors and co-workers and collaborators in the monumental task of bringing about a complete and definitive collection of all his works, even as has the Southland helped and collaborated in doing the same service for his unsuccessful opponent.

It would not have been possible for me to have done this work alone. I asked all those who are interested in one phase or another of Lincoln's life to help me, and with but one or two exceptions, I have met universal response and the most whole-hearted co-operation. It would be impossible to mention all, but to a certain number I must express my gratitude before closing this introductory statement.

Carl Sandburg, a child of the Lincoln country, scion of one of its colleges, newspaperman, official and soldier—woke up one

morning and found himself famous. He became the poet of Lincoln's plain people, found his hero, and after twenty years of travail took him through the Prairie Years to the White House. To have had his views in the preparation of this work has been a rare privilege.

It was the idea of Ida M. Tarbell, some thirty years ago, that the Lincoln story had not been completely written. It required real courage to have said that; but she demonstrated by a remarkable book, based upon the old as well as the new material she gathered, that the work was just begun. A number of important items in this collection she generously surrendered to me, although on the point of using them herself.

Oliver R. Barrett, the Maecenas of American collectors, one man in a generation with an instinct for the important, for the peaks in autographs and books—to him I owe the idea of thoroughness, the idea that there is no end to the collector's work. His generosity is attested by authors, poets, artists, historians, newspapermen, critics and students. He has something for all. He prepares for them without knowing them, but he is ready when they come, and if they be genuine they do not leave empty handed, and all his work is done with a quiet dignity which recalls the saying of Ecclesiasticus: "The words of the wise are uttered in calmness." The doorplate, the Matthews and Lambdin portraits are his contributions, as are a great many other important items which enhance this collection.

Every student of Lincoln should commune with Paul M. Angle, the young man who has made Lincoln his life's study. His ability, his information, his judgment mark him as one of the two or three men now living who are charged with bringing about the writing of the definitive life of Lincoln. His instinct in finding the genuine and detecting the spurious mark him above all other men as the historian of the mature Lincoln, the Lincoln who began in Springfield his uphill road to fame. To have met him through the study of Lincoln, to have had his advice and his help is one of the compensations, and was ample reward for the time and effort expended on this work.

To Dr. Louis A. Warren, the other young man in this crusade for a complete and definitive life of Lincoln, I am under equally lasting obligation. He, above all others, has mastered the his-

tory of Lincoln's ancestry and of Lincoln's early life, and with the material in his possession he is *facile princeps* on this important phase. His writings are genuine contributions to Lincoln history. The history of the Lincoln family and the bringing together of all the material which, when blended and collected and interpreted, will form part of the epic, the complete works and life history of Abraham Lincoln. At all times Dr. Warren gave me his advice, his accumulated documents, and the check list of published Lincoln documents, and during his temporary absences, his assistant, Miss Ethel Henneford, promptly forwarded to me all she found.

Hon. Henry Horner, Chicago's favorite jurist, the Judge whom all love and respect, whose great avocation is Lincoln, with his remarkable collection of Lincolniana, has made it possible for me to reach material which otherwise would have been denied me. Chicago's Lincoln enthusiasts like Alfred Meyer, Alexander W. Hannah, James Rosenthal, Dr. B. J. Cigrand and Morris H. Briggs, to all of whom I was introduced by him, seemed to have followed his lead, and helped me in every way. And to him, and to them, I certainly owe a great debt for what has been accumulated in these pages from their collections.

His Eminence Patrick Cardinal Hayes, through the good offices of Justice Victor J. Dowling and Father Donahue, was kind enough to furnish the letters of one of his distinguished predecessors, Archbishop Hughes to Lincoln, showing the fine cooperation between that leader of the Catholic Church and the overburdened Chief Executive.

Charles T. White, author, publicist, newspaperman, Lincoln student, has rendered assistance in every way. He has unearthed a great number of letters and documents. In all, he was one of the half dozen through whose assistance the book has attained its present proportions.

Dr. John Wesley Hill and Lincoln Memorial University were primarily responsible for my interest in Lincoln. I have explained in a pamphlet on the subject, how I came to study Lincoln and how, to quote my eloquent teacher Dr. Hill: "The torch was kindled at the altar of the University, and my ordination as a Lincoln exponent carries the seal of that Institution." And had it not been for Dr. Hill's request to stand forth and speak and

write of Lincoln, I would have been denied this great privilege; so that when I declare that he, and he alone, is indirectly responsible for this effort, I am simply stating the fact. Hence, my gratitude to him and to the University is deep and lasting.

John W. Starr, Jr., who, by a sort of arithmetical progression, adds daily to his fund of Lincoln knowledge, has most generously afforded me every assistance and help in finding material which he alone had collected—a genuine Lincoln student, in word and deed, ready to pass Lincoln information around.

Professor Clark P. Bissett—from across the continent came his help. All he had was freely offered and is included in this collection.

Dr. Herbert Putnam, a librarian par excellence, of the Library of Congress—his advice, his help, his cooperation, as well as of those of his competent assistants, was ever at my service. The vast resources of his great library are not equalled by any other, and must remain the Mecca of all students and scholars.

Dr. Victor H. Paltsits of the New York Public Library, and his great familiarity with books and their preparation, helped in my covering the whole field.

To the Huntington Library—the great institution on the Pacific Coast—my thanks are due for a great number of the items herein.

My thanks are due Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach, the Dean of American collectors and students of bibliography, who generously contributed some of the most important documents in this collection, and through whose help I reached a great number of others; it seems to be his *métier* to help students and writers along all the paths of bookland.

To Gabriel Wells, book lover, collector, pamphleteer and philosopher, who gave me all of his documents, who withheld nothing, who purchased a great number for my use, with a magnanimity unparalleled, I most sincerely tender my appreciation.

No student of American history, and particularly of the history of Lincoln, can do without the help of Thomas F. Madigan, an able son of a distinguished father. To me in particular has he been prodigal in his help and in giving me access to his treasures and to his succeeding Lincoln collections. An author of note, he might well have held back some of these treasures to adorn his

pages, but he gave me all without reserve and with a generosity which one does not often find.

David Kirschenbaum is responsible for hundreds of the items in this collection. He found sources of new material whose existence no other dealer or collector suspected. An energetic, intelligent, tireless and enthusiastic ally was this young man in my quest for Lincoln material.

The autograph history of this part of the country is to be found in the superbly edited catalogues of the Anderson Art Galleries sales, and to their kindness I owe a great many copies of Lincoln material which passed through their auction rooms.

Thomas P. Martin, of the Division of Manuscripts, called my attention to the treasures in the Library of Congress, and at all times was of great help in finding material which but for him would remain dormant and inaccessible; and I was assisted in this work by Dr. Curtis W. Garrison.

To Stan V. Henkels I owe the privilege of examining his valuable file of catalogues. Both father and son, since 1884, have sold more autographs in their part of the country than any other similar institution.

To the Grolier Club my thanks are due for permission to examine their fine collection of bibliography and catalogues from all over the world.

Seymour de Ricci was kind enough to see that nothing on the Continent was omitted. When one remembers his remarkably extensive library of catalogues in Paris which supplements so well the resources of the Grolier Club of New York, thus covering the entire field abroad, I began to feel satisfied that little which had gone abroad would be omitted.

My friend, Carl Hirsch, made it possible for me to procure two important letters which had found their way to Germany.

To Harry MacNeill Bland I owe the privilege of reproducing many copies of Lincoln letters and hitherto unknown draft orders, as well as copies of contemporary Lincoln portraits. He seems to stand in a class by himself in the vast field of prints and portraits relating to the different epochs of American history.

Elmer L. Irey, of the Treasury Department, called my attention to the book of Internal Revenue orders establishing Revenue Districts in Illinois and neighboring States.

To the New York Historical Society, for generously giving me copies of all their Lincoln material and of their paintings of Lincoln and his family, I am particularly indebted, as is every student of American history.

To the Department of State I am indebted for a complete file of the diplomatic correspondence of the Lincoln administration.

To the Department of Justice for their Lincoln letters and documents.

The records of the War Department from which so much has been borrowed, copied and published—still yielded some items overlooked by other and former students.

To the J. P. Morgan Library for the permission to reprint their valuable documents.

To Brown University for permission to use some of their legal documents.

To L. Bamberger for a number of important Lincoln letters, and to Herbert A. DeLinia for a newly discovered letter in Connecticut.

The bookdealers and autograph collectors of New York City deserve special mention in doing all they could to help unearth new material in every form: Daniel H. Newhall, Samuel Dauber, Nathan S. Pine, Charles Everitt, Frank Thoms and Charles Eron, Adolph Stager, John Howell, Harry Stone, E. J. O'Malley, the Mendozas—father and sons, Theodore Schulte, and Robert J. C. Lingel.

To Daniel Novomirsky was assigned the task by Joseph Stalin, the Secretary-General of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, of searching the Red Archives for any correspondence during 1861-1865, which would throw light on the Russo-American relations during the Civil War, and through the good offices of Senator William E. Borah, who endorsed my request, I had the privilege of receiving this information from the Russian Bureau of Archives.

Jessinglal P. Mehta, of Bombay, who gave me the information of the Huntington portrait purchased in America by Dossabhoy Framjee Cama, a Parsee merchant of Bombay, and which was ultimately presented to the Prince of Wales Museum of that city.

Albert H. Griffith, one of the most thorough collectors of Lin-

coln material, gave me copies of many a document and many a lead to others.

Professor F. I. Herriott for his help in uncovering the relations of Lincoln and the German leaders of his day. He is the sole authority on that subject.

John Gribbell's fine collection was given to me in toto upon my first meeting him, and that contains some of the most important items in these volumes.

Gen. John G. Dyer, without ever having met him, sent a copy of all his letters, some of which are here reproduced.

The Union League Club of Philadelphia and the Rev. C. Arthur Carty, the Librarian, gave me the documents and their portrait of Lincoln by Xanthus Smith.

Gordon A. Block, an enthusiastic Lincoln student, gave me his items, which are new and useful. William A. Carr kindly gave me his very important document.

Miss Esther C. Cushman, the gifted custodian of the Lincoln collection of Brown University, and to the Librarian, H. L. Koopman, I desire to express my appreciation for the aid and help I received at their hands.

Norman B. Frost helped me in many ways. It was he who enabled me to study Lincoln's relations with Dr. Canisius, and above all he furnished me the list of papers in the Library of Congress which definitely describes what may be expected when those items are published, and made it possible for me to meet and speak and hold the hand of Abraham Lincoln's own flesh and blood—Robert T. Lincoln.

To Gamaliel Bradford I am indebted for doing this work, for he asked me to do so. It would require more courage than I possess to refuse the dean of American Historians any such request.

Atherton N. Hunt helped me by locating essential material in Boston.

To F. Lauriston Bullard I owe part of the enthusiasm which prompted this work.

To Frederick H. Meserve belongs the credit of having gathered over a hundred photographs of Lincoln and to him all go for copies of some of his photographs; lovers of truth owe him a great debt for having helped to dispose of the myth as to Lincoln's looks and features.

The British Museum furnished a copy of the Lincoln letter and document they have.

The Chicago Historical Society permitted the use of such of its clippings which carried new material.

From Judge L. F. Fishbach I received a copy of a letter to his father.

Edward Mandel, W. E. Koerner, Rev. David F. Nelson, gave me their documents.

Governor Edwin S. Stuart gave me a copy of a letter of Lincoln's to his father.

J. F. Meegan has furnished some of the most striking documents, as has Luther M. Cornwall, and William H. Townsend have made it possible for me to obtain some fine documents which appear in these pages for the first time.

And in conclusion, to Miss Minette A. Nast goes the credit of transcribing this manuscript. Her editing, deciphering some of Lincoln's handwriting which baffled all others, her suggestions in the process of the writing of this book, have been invaluable, and her help brought the work to an earlier completion.

E. H.

October, 1931.

Verse written on torn page of Lincoln's Sum Book, dated 1824.

“Abraham Lincoln is my name
And with my pen I wrote the same,
I wrote in both haste and speed
And left it here for fools to read.”

Muster Roll of Captain A. Lincoln's Company of the 4th Regiment of Mounted Volunteers commanded by Brig. Gen. Samuel Whiteside Mustered out of Service of the United States at the Mouth of Fox River May the 27th 1832.

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>When enroled</i>	<i>Where enroled</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Abraham Lincoln	Captain	21 April	Richland, Sanga-	
Samuel M. Thompson	1 Lieut.	“ “	mon Cty. “	Resigned 30 April Colonel of 4 Regt. See Roll Field & Staff
John Brannen	2 “	“ “	“ “	
John Armstrong	1 Serg.	“ “	“ “	
Tavner B. Anderson	2 “	“ “	“ “	
George W. Foster	3 “	“ “	“ “	Transferred to a foot com- pany April 29.
Obadiah Morgan	4 “	“ “	“ “	
Thomas Comby	1 Corp.	“ “	“ “	
John Plaster	2 “	“ “	“ “	Resigned 20 day May & serve as a private since
Wm. F. Berry	3 “	“ “	“ “	
Alexander Trent	4 “	“ “	“ “	
John Erwin	private	“ “	“ “	Promoted to 3rd Sarg. in room of G. W. Foster April 29
John H. Houghton				
Thomas Pierce				
Samuel Tibby				
Henry Hadley				
Samuel Dutton				
Calvin Pierce				
Joseph Tibby				
Wm. Kirkpatrick				Promoted from the Ranks April 30
Cyrus Colmore				
Elijah Pierce				
Lewis W. Farmer				
Bordry Matthews				
Ep. Sullivan				
Valentine Crite				
Charles Sullivan				
James Simmons				
Hugh Armstrong				Promoted to 1st Lieut. April 30
Allen King				
Joseph Dobson				

<i>Names</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>When enroled</i>	<i>Where enroled</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
David Rankin				Transferred to a foot com- pany May 19
Urbin Alexander				Absent on extra duty
Henry Cox				
Merritt M. Canvuas				
Royal Potter				
David M. Pantier				Absent on furlough
Joseph Hohimer				
George Warburton				
Evan T. Lamb				
Colardey Barnette				
John M. Rutledge				
Wm. Cox				
Usil Meeker				
Richard Jones				Promoted from the ranks May 2nd colorbearer
Charles Pierce	private	21 Apl.	Richland	
James Clemmertt				
John Y. Lane				
Richard Lane				
Royal Clary				
Pleasant Armstrong				
James Yardley				
David Rutledge				
Michael Plaster				Absent without leave
John Mounce				Absent without leave
Wm. Hohimer				Absent on furlough
Isaac Anderson				
Wm. Marshall				
Wm. Cummins				
John Jones				Absent without leave
Travice Elmore				
Wm. Foster				Transferred to a foot com- pany April 29
Nathan Drake		29 Apr.	Beardstown	
Robert S. Plunkett		" "	" "	
Wm. T. Sprouce				Promoted from the Ranks May 2—Gunsmith Field & Staff
William Clary				
Jacob Heaverer				
Thomas Long				
William Green				
Isaac Gullheim		19 May	Dixons ferry	

I certify upon honour that this Muster Roll exhibits a true Statement of Captain A. Lincoln's Company of Mounted Volunteers of Illinois Militia on this day and that the remarks set opposite the names are accurate and Just.

A. LINCOLN, Capt.

I certify on honor that I have carefully examined this Muster Roll and that I have this 27th day of May 1832, mustered and minutely inspected for discharge the above named Company of Mounted Volunteers, in the Brigade commanded by Brig. Gen. Samuel Whiteside.

NATHANIEL BUCKMASTER,
Inspector & Muster Officer.

I CERTIFY, That Lewis W. Farmer volunteered and served as a private in the Company of Mounted Volunteers under my command, in the Regiment commanded by Col. SAMUEL M. THOMPSON, in the Brigade under the command of Generals S. WHITESIDE and H. ATKINSON, called into the service of the United States by the Commander-in-Chief of the Militia of the State, for the protection of the North Western Frontier against an Invasion by the British Band of Sac and other tribes of Indians,—that he was enrolled on the 21st day of April, 1832, and was HONORABLY DISCHARGED on the 7th day of June, thereafter, having served 48 days.

Given under my hand this 21st day of September, 1832.

A. LINCOLN, Capt.

(The first legal document Lincoln ever wrote.)

Know all men by these presents that we David Rutledge William Green Jr. and A. Lincoln are held and firmly bound unto Alexander Trent and Martin S. Trent in the penal sum of one hundred and fifty dollars well and truly to be paid unto them—as witness our hands and seals this 31st of Jany—1833—

DAVID RUTLEDGE [Seal]

WILLIAM GREEN [Seal]

A. LINCOLN [Seal]

The condition of the above obligation is such If the above bounden David Rutledge shall make a good and lawful deed of conveyance to the said Alexander Trent and Martin S. Trent for the East half of Lot Number five South of Main Street in the first survey in the town of New-Salem — on or before the first day of July next the above obligation is to be null void and of no effect—otherwise to remain in full force and virtue at law

In testimony whereof the said David Rutledge Alexander Trent and Martin S. Trent have hereunto set their hands and seals this 31st day of January 1833

DAVID RUTLEDGE [Seal]

A. TRENT [Seal]

M. S. TRENT [Seal]

WILLIAM GREEN, JR. to REUBEN RADFORD.

Know all men by these presents, that I, William Green Jr., of the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois, for and in consideration of the sum of Two hundred dollars, to me in hand paid, the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, have given, granted, bargained and sold, and by these presents do give, grant, bargain and sell, all my right title interest and estate in and to

The West half of lot number five, North of Main Street, in the first survey, in the town of New Salem, in the county and State aforesaid.

Together with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in anywise appertaining thereunto—Reuben Radford, his heirs, and assigns forever.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this fifteenth day of January in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Three.

WILLIAM GREEN JR. [Seal]

Attest: A. LINCOLN.

The condition of the above obligations is such, if the said William Green Jr. shall comply with the requisites of two promissory notes, made and executed on this day for the sum of one hundred and eighty-eight dollars and fifty cents each, payable to the said Reuben Radford, the above Deed of bargain to be null and void and of no effect. But if the said William Green Jr. shall prove insolvent, and utterly unable to comply with the demands of said notes, the above Deed of bargain is to remain in full force and virtue at law.

In testimony whereof the said William Green Jr. and Reuben Radford have hereunto set their hands this 15th of January 1833.

WILLIAM GREEN JR. [Seal]

REUBEN RADFORD [Seal]

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
SANGAMON COUNTY } to-wit.

This day personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for said County, Abram Lincoln whose name appears signed as a subscribing witness to the annexed Deed of

Conveyance, the said Abram Lincoln, being personally known to me to be the person whose name appears subscribed to the said Deed, and the said Abram Lincoln, after being duly sworn depositeh and saith that the said Deed was executed and delivered in his presence by William Green, whose name appears subscribed to the said Deed, that the said William Green whose name appears subscribed to the said Deed is the real person who executed the same, and that he, the said Abram Lincoln, subscribed his name as a witness in his presence, and at his request.

Given under my hand and seal this 10th day of July 1833.
Recorded August 1, A. D. 1833—ROBERT COWNOVER J. P. [Seal]

(In 1833 after his return from the Black Hawk War, Lincoln ran for the Legislature, but was defeated. He was appointed deputy to John Calhoun the County Surveyor as well as postmaster for New Salem, which posts he held until 1834 when he was elected to the legislature.)

I herewith enclose my bill for surveying . . . this County Sangamon . . .

To — as Surveyor	\$12.00
To making map50

\$12.50

A. LINCOLN.

GEORGE MILLER *vs.* ELIZABETH MILLER

Brief memorandum penned on the back of one of the pleadings prepared by Lincoln for his use in the suit: "A pitiful story of marital discord." In his petition, written by Lincoln, the husband recites that he and Elizabeth Miller were married in Bath County, Kentucky, in 1829; that

after said marriage they continued to live together as man and wife, he doing and performing all the duties of an affectionate husband for two or three years when unhappy differences arose and without the fault of your orator she, the defendant, left the bed and board of your orator and went to her relatives; a short time passed and a reconciliation which your orator fondly but vainly hoped would be permanent

took place between the defendant and him and she returned to his house; but in a short time she left again and after that frequent temporary reconciliations and separations occurred between them extending in time to the year 1834 when it was agreed between them that they would remove separately to Illinois, there meet, be finally reconciled and live together as man and wife; that they did so remove to Sangamon county, Illinois, where they soon met and, being encouraged by the defendant, your orator set about making preparation to live with her by procuring a house etc. when in a short time, without the fault of your orator, difficulties again arose extending in time up to the year 1836 when she, the defendant, announced to your orator her determination never to live with him again. Thus matters passed till the year 1841 when the defendant and your orator again met in Kentucky and at her instance agreed that on their return to Illinois they would meet and live in peace. Your orator further charges that he did in good faith endeavor to put said last named agreement into execution, but that on meeting the defendant in Menard county, Illinois, where she now resides and has resided since the formation of the county in the fall of 1841, she again announced to your orator her determination never to live with him again, since which time your orator has abandoned all hope of a reconciliation. And so your orator charges that the said defendant has wilfully deserted and absented herself from him without any reasonable cause for more than two years. In tender consideration of all which your orator prays that on a final hearing of this cause your Honor will decree that the bonds of matrimony heretofore and now existing between said defendant and your orator be forever dissolved; and that your Honor will grant such other and further relief as equity may require.

MR. SPEARS

At your request, I send you a receipt for the postage on your paper— I am some what surprised at your request— I will however comply with it— The law requires Newspaper postage to be paid in advance and now that I have waited a full year you choose to wound my feelings by insinuating that unless you get a receipt I will probably make you pay it again—

Respectfully

A. LINCOLN.

Received of George Spears in full for postage on the Sangamo Journal up to the first of July, 1834

A. LINCOLN P.M.

New Salem, Ill.
Nov. 3, 1835

LEN DAVIS, ESQUIRE

Dear Sir:

You will confer a favor on me by examining the record kept by the old state recorder and ascertaining whether a deed for the northwest quarter in section 23 in town 10, north range, 5 west in the county tract made by William Trent and Michael McDierman, has ever been recorded in that office and if so whether the record shows that the land has been transferred by McDierman and if it has, who is the present owner under him. Also please give me all the information in your office in regard to sales of said land for taxes and who is the present owner of the tax title.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
A. LINCOLN.

New Salem, Ills.
Nov. 3, 1835

MESRS. (sic)

Your subscriber at this place *John C. Vance*, is dead, and no person takes the paper from the office.

Respectfully,
A. LINCOLN, P. M.

BLAIR & RIVES

New Salem, Nov. 10th, 1835.

HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR DUNCAN

Dear Sir

Understanding that Mr. Levi Davis of Vandalia, is an applicant for the office of Auditor of Public Accounts, I take the liberty to say to you, that his appointment to that office would be entirely satisfactory to me, and, I doubt not, to most others who are the friends of qualification and—merit—

Your Obt Servt
A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 13, 1836.

R. P. MORGAN, Esq.

Dear Sir: Says Tom to John, "Here's your old rotten wheelbarrow. I've broke it, usen' on it. I wish you would mend it, 'case I shall want to borrow it this afternoon."

Acting on this precedent, I say, "Here's your old 'chalked hat.' I wish you would take it and send me a new one, 'case I shall want to use it the first of March."

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

AN OLD DOCUMENT.—E. Rankin brought into the *HERALD* office, the other day, a plat of "Albany," a village laid out in the year 1836 near Rocky Ford in this county. Six of the eight blocks constituting the embryo city belonged to John Wright and the remainder to John Donovan. However, the fact which gave peculiar interest to the yellow, old document was that it was drawn by Abraham Lincoln, then deputy surveyor of Sangamon county, of which the present county of Logan formed a part. Lincoln's certificate, written in a plain, old-fashioned hand, reads as follows:

"I hereby certify that the above is a correct map of the town of Albany as surveyed by me.

A. LINCOLN,
for T. M. Neale, S. S. C.

June 16, 1836.

In the name of God: Amen.

I, Joshua Short, of the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois, being infirm in body, but of sound mind and memory do ordain and establish the following as my *last will* and *testament* revoking all others.

It is my will that all my debts, if any there be, be immediately paid at my decease.

It is my will that all my property be disposed of at my decease, as follows (viz)

It is my will that my dearly beloved wife Parthena Short shall have and retain all the property that she had at the time of my marriage with her, or that she has since made.

It is further my will that, if she, my said wife, shall, at my decease, desire to go to her relations, she shall be conveyed thence at the expense of my estate.

It is my will that, after the above provisions are carried into effect, all the remaining part of my estate be equally divided between my three sons, Joseph Short, John Short, and William Short, and my three daughters, Sarah Bennett, Chloe Thomas and Elizabeth Short, and my grandson Allen Short, being the son of my deceased son James Short.

It is my will that my son John Short, and my son-in-law James Short be the executors of this my last will and testament.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twentysecond day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six.

Attest

A. LINCOLN

JOHN LILLIE

JOSIAH X COOK

his mark

his
JOSHUA X SHORT
mark

Vandalia, Dec. 24, 1836.

DEAR MACK: I write this to notify you that I have the petition for the change of the State road, so as to make it run by Tilmon, Howbacker's, and Bowman's, and that unless you, who are opposed to the change, get up a remonstrance and send it on, I shall be forced to have a bill passed upon the petition. I might write you a long letter of political news, but you will see that as soon in the newspapers, which will save me the trouble.

If you feel any particular interest in this road affair, don't fail to bestir yourself. Your friend,

A. LINCOLN.

JOHN McNAMARA, Petersburg, Sangamon County, Ill.

January 4, 1837.

"Manly F. Cannon, plaintiff, complains of Mathew P. Kenney, defendant, being in custody by a plea of trespass: For that the said defendant on the fourth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, at the county

and circuit aforesaid, with force of arms, seized, took, and carried away of him, the said plaintiff, one sorrel horse of great value, to wit: of the value of one hundred dollars, then and there found and being and converted and disposed of the same to his own use, and other wrongs to the said plaintiff then and there did against the peace and dignity of the People of the State of Illinois and to the damage of the said plaintiff one of one hundred dollars and therefore he sues.

"Signed STUART AND LINCOLN."

ATWOOD & JONES

vs.

DOUGLAS & WRIGHT

And the said plaintiffs for Replication to the said first plea of the said Wright by him above pleaded, say *precludi non*, because they say, that at the date of the said note in the said declaration mentioned to wit on the 8th day of December A.D. 1837 the said Wright was in copartnership with the said Erskine Douglas as alleged in their said declaration. And this they are ready to verify, wherefore they pray judgement &c.

STUART & LINCOLN p.q.

And plaintiffs do the like

STUART & LINCOLN p.q.

And for Replication to the second plea of the said Wright above pleaded, say *precludi non* because they say, the said Wright did execute the said note in manner and form as in the said declaration alleged, and this they are ready to verify, wherefore they pray judgement &c.

STUART & LINCOLN p.q.

And the plaintiffs do the like

STUART & LINCOLN p.q.

The answer of Abraham Lincoln, guardian ad litem of the infant heirs of John Lowry, deceased, to a petition filed in the Macon circuit court by John Lowry, administrator of the estate of the said John Lowry, deceased, praying for the sale of the real estate of said deceased—

This respondent for answer to the above named petition states that he has examined said petition and papers filed therewith, and that he knows of no good reason consistent with the interest of the said infant heirs, why the prayer and petition should not be granted.

A. LINCOLN

Guardian ad litem.

SAMUEL G. NESBITT and JAMES L. NESBITT

against

HENRY PRATHER and JOHN L. ADAMSON.

And the said defendants come and defend the wrong and injury when, where, etc., and say they do not owe to the said plaintiffs the said sums of money in their said petition mentioned in manner and form as the same is therein stated and set forth, and of this they put themselves upon the country, etc.

Lincoln, f. d.

K. Benedict, for the plft.

And the said plaintiff does likewise. And the said defendants hereby give notice to the said plaintiffs that on the trial of the above cause, they will offer to prove and set off the said \$58.51 paid by the said defendants to Benjamin Dillehunt at the request of said plaintiffs.

(Page from Stuart and Lincoln's Fee Book, 1837-38.)

E. L. ROSS

To STUART & LINCOLN

Dr.

1837—April—To attendance at trial of right of J. F.

Davis property before Moffett

\$5.00

MATHER LAMB & Co.

To STUART & LINCOLN, Dr.

1837—April—To attendance at trial of right of J. F.

Davis property before Moffett

\$5.00

LUCINDA MASON

To STUART & LINCOLN, Dr.

1837—Oct.—To obtaining assignment of dower

\$5.00

WILEY & WOOD

	TO STUART & LINCOLN, DR.	
1837-38	To defence of chancery case of Ely	\$50.00
	Credit by coat to Stuart	15.00
		<hr/>
		\$35.00

PEYTON L. HARRISON

	TO STUART & LINCOLN, DR.	
1838—March—	To case with Dickinson	\$10.00

ALLEN & STONE

	TO STUART & LINCOLN, DR.	
1838—Oct.—	To case with Curtis	\$2.50

(Note—All entries written by Lincoln.)

Received of Moses M. Martin as administrator of the estate of Isaac Martin deceased the sum of seven dollars & fifty cents, in full for services rendered said estate.

STUART & LINCOLN.

October 15, 1838.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
SANGAMON COUNTY

A. Lincoln being first duly sworn says that he was employed as counsel in the case of Samuel Rogers *vs.* Polly Rogers for a Divorce; that he, the affiant, drew up the complainant's bill; that said complainant at that time told this affiant that he could prove that the said defendant had been guilty of adultery with one William Short while she lived with said complainant; but that affiant advised said complainant not to make the charge in his bill as there was other sufficient grounds upon which to obtain a divorce, to-wit, absence of more than two years.

A. LINCOLN.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of October 1838

WM. BUTLER, CLERK.

This Union is a brotherhood of states and it is said that if it is to fall it will be caused by fraud, force and wrong upon the ballot-

box. Once make Missouri, Kentucky and Indiana interested by bets in Illinois elections, though for President, and you hold out inducements to raids, ruffianism, etc. The same with reference to elections in Indiana, Kentucky and Missouri and the people of Illinois will overrun those states. Build up good communities; do as you would be done by and all is safe and right. Let the court put its face against betting on all elections in this Union; but upon totally foreign countries leave it as at common law though barbarous. The complicated relations of these 32 states to each other and the Union create a peculiar public policy. Read 3 Scammon again and reverse or modify it.

Respectfully

LINCOLN & HERNDON.

STRAYED OR STOLEN

From a stable in Springfield on Wednesday, 18th inst., a large bay horse, star in his forehead, plainly marked with harness; supposed to be eight years old; had been shod all around, but is believed to have lost some of his shoes, and trots and paces. Any person who will take up said horse and leave information at the *Journal* Office or with the subscriber at New Salem, shall be liberally paid for their trouble.

A. LINCOLN.

In defense of fifteen women of Clinton, Illinois, indicted for saloon smashing, in 1839.

May it please the court, I will say a few words in behalf of the women who are arraigned before your honor and the jury. I would suggest, first, that there be a change in the indictment, so as to have it read, "The State against Mr. Whisky," instead of "The State against the Women." It would be far more appropriate. Touching this question, there are three laws: First, the law of self-protection; second, the law of the statute; third, the law of God. The law of self-protection is the law of necessity, as shown when our fathers threw the tea into the Boston harbor, and in asserting their right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

This is the defense of these women. The man who has persisted in selling whisky has had no regard for their well-being or the welfare of their husbands and sons. He has had no fear of God or regard for man; neither has he had any regard for the laws of the statute. No jury can fix any damages or punishment for any violation of the moral law. The course pursued by this liquor-dealer has been for the demoralization of society. His groggery has been a nuisance. These women, finding all moral suasion of no avail with this fellow, oblivious to all tender appeal, alike regardless of their prayers and tears, in order to protect their households and promote the welfare of the community, united to suppress the nuisance. The good of society demands its suppression. They accomplished what otherwise could not have been done.

Vandalia, Feb. 14, 1839.

DEAR STUART:

I have a note in Bank, which falls due sometime between the 20th and last of this month. Butler stands as principal and I as security; but I am in reality the principal. It will take between 50 and 55 dollars to renew it. Butler has more than that much money in his hands which he collected on a bill of mine since I came away. I wish you to call at the Bank, have a note filled over my name, signed below, get Butler to sign it and also to let you have the money to renew it. Ewing won't do anything. He is not worth a damn.

Your friend,

A. LINCOLN.

A. LINCOLN.

To the Honorable the Judge of the Sangamon Circuit Court in
Chancery sitting—

Humbly complaining sheweth unto your Honor, your orator Samuel P. Bailey, that one John Gridley has commenced a suit in

this court against one Hudson Low, to foreclose a mortgage, on certain lands described in said Gridley's Bill, given to secure the payment of *three* several promissory notes; that said Gridley prays that the lands may be sold to satisfy *two* of said notes only; that your orator is the legal assignee of the other of said notes, upon which notes he instituted suit in the common law side of this court, and obtained judgement thereon at this present term—

In tender consideration of which premises your orator prays permission to interplead in the said case of Gridley against Low; and that the decree in said case be so made, that his judgement may be paid out of the proceeds of the sale of the said lands, unless the said proceeds be insufficient to pay the whole amount for which the said lands were mortgaged, in which case your orator prays that a fair distributive share of said proceeds be applied to the payment of his said judgement—

SAMUEL P. BAILEY

by his Solicitors

STUART & LINCOLN.

Filed Mar 12th 1839.

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
SANGAMON COUNTY }

This day personally appeared before the undersigned, clerk of the circuit court in and for the county aforesaid, William Edwards of the county aforesaid who is about to commence a suit against Oliver Hazzard Perry Rush, to recover damages for slanderous words spoken by the said Rush, charging this affiant with stealing money; and that the said damages, or the benefit of whatever judgement may be obtained by said affiant, against the said Rush, in the said circuit court, will be in danger of being lost, unless the said Rush be held to bail agreeably to the laws of this state

WILLIAM EDWARDS.

Sworn to before me
this 12th day of March
1839

WM. BUTLER Clk.

WILLIAM EDWARDS	} Trespass on the case—
<i>vs.</i>	
OLIVER HAZZARD, PERRY RUSH.	
	Damage \$1000.00.

The clerk of the Sangamon circuit court will issue a *capias* on the above, returnable to the next term of said court.

STUART & LINCOLN,
For Plff.

March 12, 1839.

Springfield, Ill. Aug. 7, 1839.

MR. THOMAS BOHANNAN
Dr Sir

Yours of the 29th ult. is duly received— It was our impression that we had acknowledged the receipt of the two notes of which you speak—one being on Allen & Stone for \$117.94 the other on J. Francis for \$50.35— We now do so—

We have been receiving promises from time to time of the payment of those notes but which payment has not yet been made— Unless payment is soon made we shall commence suits; though this course we shall regret; for they are honest and honorable men, but they are hard pressed— We regret to say that the entire certainty that we shall need all the means at our command, will not, in justice to ourselves, permit us to authorize you to draw upon us as you suggest— Yours &c.

STUART & LINCOLN.

STUART & LINCOLN

Received, Springfield, Jan. 21st, 1840 of T. R. Skinner, five dollars, being in full of our fee for attending in court to procuring an assignment of Dower to Harriet L. Langston late widow of Isaac L. Skinner.

STUART & LINCOLN.

(On back of document)

No. 11. Stuart & Lincoln. Rect. \$.5.00

Springfield,
June 16—1840.

JONATHAN G. RANDALL,
Rushville, Ill.

My Dear Sir:

Your son Richard has just told me of his great loss. The rascally Whigs, through a mistake, took his trunk containing all his clothes off to Chicago, and his heart is almost broken. Make him up some new ones just as you know he needs and make his heart glad.

Yours Respectfully

A. LINCOLN.

A considerable part of Legislative session of 1840 was devoted to "An Act making provision for organizing and maintaining common schools." Mr. Lincoln's hand shows at only one spot in the record but at this place his position is clear and unmistakable. On December 2, 1840, he offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, that the Committee on Education be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the examination as to the qualification of persons offering themselves as school teachers, that no person shall receive any part of the public school fund who shall not have successfully passed such examination, and that they report by bill or otherwise."

Jan. 5, 1841. Legal papers in the divorce case of Ann McDaniel *vs.* Patrick McDaniel.

"She also states that while she and her said husband lived together, she had three children by him, to wit, Ellen, Mary and Julia, that from the respective births of said children up to the present time before and after the desertion of her said husband, she has supported and maintained said children exclusively by her own labour, and that her said husband never contributed in any way to their support . . . In tender consideration of all which your oratrix prays, . . . that on a final hearing of the cause your Honor will decree that the bonds of matrimony heretofore and now existing between the said defendant, and your oratrix be

forever dissolved and that your oratrix be decreed to have the care and custody of her said children.”

Springfield, Jany. 20th, 1841.

DEAR STUART:

I have had no letter from you since you left— No matter for that— What I wish now is to speak of our Postoffice— You know I desired Dr. Henry to have the place when you left; I now desire it more than ever— I have, within the last few days, been making a most discreditable exhibition of myself in the way of hypochondriasm and thereby got an impression that Dr. Henry is necessary to my existence— Unless he gets that place he leaves Springfield. You therefore see how much I am interested in the matter.

We shall shortly forward you a petition in his favor signed by all or nearly all the Whig members of the Legislature, as well as other Whigs.

This, together with what you know of the Dr's position and merits I sincerely hope will secure him the appointment— My heart is very much set upon it—

Pardon me for not writing more; I have not sufficient composure to write a long letter—

As ever yours

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Feby. 5, 1841.

I have my heart set upon Webb's appointment as District Attorney and the whole party would be gratified with it— What the Locos will do about the Congressional Election no man can tell— I heart Herndon say that he was in favor of taking Sangamon and others from your District and adding them to Reynolds, this, I think more probable than the District system, etc.

Springfield, June 4th 1841—

DEAR COL:

Yours of the 23rd ult: is duly received and I have most cheerfully complied with the request you make in relation to Col: Ser-

vant— I have written to Mr. Tyler saying all for the Col: that I could say for the best man on earth— Baker will do the same to-day—

About the matter you and I spoke of at our last parting, I can say nothing which would be news to you. My feelings, and those of Baker, on that subject, are precisely the same as when we last saw you; but the question is *how* to effect any thing— If you see any way that we can do any thing you ought to write us; there is no indelicacy in it. Baker and I were with Webb at Vermillion, and talked the matter over with him; and he will tell you the particulars of what we thought—

With my best respects to Mrs. Davidson and Mrs. Wilson, I remain

Your friend, as ever

A. LINCOLN.

I have received five dollars from Deed of Macon, five from Lewis Keeling & five from Andrew Finley one half of which belongs to Stuart & has not been entered on our book.

LINCOLN.

Whereas I have purchased of Thomas Lincoln and his wife, the North East fourth of the South East quarter of Section Twenty-one in Township Eleven North of Range Nine East, for which I have paid them the sum of two hundred dollars, and have taken their deed of conveyance for the same, with a reservation of a life estate therein to them and the survivor of them:— Now I bind myself, my heirs and assigns, to convey said tract of land to John D. Johnston, or his heirs, at any time after the death of the survivor of the said Thomas Lincoln & wife, provided he shall pay me, my heirs or assigns, the said sum of two hundred dollars, at any time within one year after the death of the survivor of the said Thomas Lincoln & wife; and the same may be paid without interest except after the death of the survivor as aforesaid—

Witness my hand and seal this 25th day of October, A. D. 1841.

A. LINCOLN [Seal]

Received, Springfield, Nov. 17th 1841 of John Brodie, administrator of Archibald Hood deceased, ten dollars, being in full for a fee which said Hood owed me, and also the only debt he owed me.

A. LINCOLN.

Decr. 6th 1841. Received of A. H. Kellar \$12.50. the ballance (sic) of his note to Stuart & Lincoln, and for one half of which I am to account to Stuart—

A. LINCOLN.

Address on the Death of Mr. Benjamin Ferguson, Delivered, February 8, 1842, at the Washington Temperance Society.

MR. PRESIDENT: The solemn duty has been assigned to me, of announcing to this Society, the sudden and melancholy death of its much respected member, Benjamin Ferguson.

After an illness of only six days, he closed his mortal existence, at a quarter past seven on the evening of the 3d inst., in the bosom of his family at his residence in this city.

Mr. Ferguson was one who became a member of this society without any prospect of advantage to himself. He was, though not totally abstinent, strictly temperate before; and he espoused the cause solely with the hope and benevolent design of being able, by his efforts and example, to benefit others. Would to God, he had been longer spared to the humane work upon which he had so distinterestedly entered.

In his intercourse with his fellow men, he possessed that rare uprightness of character, which was evidenced by his having no disputes or bickerings of his own, while he was ever the chosen arbiter to settle those of his neighbors.

In very truth he was the noblest work of God—an honest man.

The grateful task commonly vouchsafed to the mournful living, of casting the mantle of charitable forgetfulness over the faults of the lamented dead, is denied to us; for although it is much to say, for any of the erring family of man, we believe we may say, that he whom we deplore was faultless.

To Almighty God we commend him; and, in His name, implore the aid and protection of his omnipotent right arm, for his bereaved and disconsolate family.

In a speech made by Mr. Lincoln, on May 6th, 1842, at Cincinnati, on the occasion of the presentation of a silver pitcher to Mr. Chase, by some free negroes, as a token of their regard, Mr. Lincoln was present and said:

"In what I have done I cannot claim to have acted from any peculiar consideration of the colored people as a separate and distinct class in the community, but from the simple conviction that all the individuals of that class are members of the community, and, in virtue of their manhood, entitled to every original right enjoyed by any other member. We feel, therefore, that all legal distinction between individuals of the same community, founded in any such circumstances as color, origin, and the like, are hostile to the genius of our institutions, and incompatible with the true history of American liberty. Slavery and oppression must cease, or American liberty must perish.

"In Massachusetts, and in most, if not all, the New England States, the colored man and the white are absolutely equal before the law.

"In New York the colored man is restricted as to the right of suffrage by a property qualification. In other respects the same equality prevails.

"I embrace, with pleasure, this opportunity of declaring my disapprobation of that clause of the Constitution which denies to a portion of the colored people the right of suffrage.

"True Democracy makes no inquiry about the color of the skin, or place of nativity, or any other similar circumstances of condition. I regard, therefore, the exclusion of the colored people as a body from the elective franchise as incompatible with true Democratic principles."

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
SANGAMON COUNTY } ss.

David H. Norris, being first duly sworn, states on oath that he is about to commence an action of Trespass on the case in the circuit court of the county aforesaid, against one Hugh R. Bunn, for words spoken by said Bunn, charging this affiant with the commission of the crime of forgery, that said Bunn made said charge substantially in the words following to wit: "There is a note in New Jersey which I (meaning said Bunn) have paid

off, which Norris (meaning this affiant) forged, and I (meaning said Bunn) am going to have it here shortly and make it out so" that said words, and the substance and meaning of them in any and every possible form, are wholly untrue, ~~and~~ (sic) that they were spoken by said Bunn within less than one year from this time, and that the benefit of whatever judgement may be obtained in said action will be in danger of being lost unless the said Bunn be held to bail—

Subscribed & Sworn to before me
this 4. day Aug. 1842.

DAVID H. NORRIS.

J. CALHOUN Ck.

DAVID H. NORRIS }
vs. } ss.
HUGH R. BUNN }

Trespass on the case
Damage \$1000—

The clerk of the Sangamon Circuit Court will issue a capias according to the above affidavit & Precipe—

LOGAN & LINCOLN p.q.

To the Honorable, the judge of the De Witt county circuit court in chancery sitting—

Humbly complaining shew unto your Honor, your Orators Sanford Watson and Rhodes Loyd, that on the 10th day of August 1842, one Harrison Watson executed the instrument herewith filed marked (A) and prayed to be taken as part hereof—that a short while afterwards, to wit in October of the same year, the said Harrison Watson departed this life, and afterwards your orators were duly appointed his administrators in Logan county, and remain such at this time—that some time after they became such administrators, the said Frederick S. Troxtel, and Peter S. Troxtel transferred their equitable interest in the contract, evidenced by said instrument, in writing to one John A. Paine; and that the said Paine has partly paid to your orators the money due on the note in the instrument mentioned, and has fully secured to their entire satisfaction, the remainder; so that the said old note is fully discharged—

They therefore ask that the Frederick S. Troxtel, Peter S. Troxtel, and John A. Paine, be made defendants hereto, and that your Honor will decree that your orators convey the lands



Life Mask of Lincoln's Face and Hands, by Leonard W. Volk

in the instrument in writing described to the said John A. Paine, and your Honor will make such further order, as may be proper in the premises, and as in duty bound &c.

LINCOLN for complainants—

DEAR HANKS—I am, to be married next Thursday eve, the 18th, to Mary Todd. I hope you will be on deck at early candle light.

A. LINCOLN.

STATE OF ILLINOIS } Of the Oct. Term of
COLES COUNTY } Circuit Court 1842.

BENJAMIN TURNEY

vs.

ARCHIBALD CRAIG.

And the said Deft, By Linder & Walker his attys comes and defends the wrongs & injuries when &c. and for plea says that he is not guilty, in manner and form as the said Pff. has thereof complained against him, and of this he puts himself upon the country.

LINDER & WALKER
For Deft.

And the plaintiff doth the like—

FICKLIN & LINCOLN p.q.

Yet the said defendant (although often requested so to do) has not as yet paid said sum of money or any part thereof; but so to do has hitherto wholly neglected and refused, and still does neglect and refuse, To the damage of the said plaintiff of seven hundred dollars and therefore he brings his suit &c.

LOGAN & LINCOLN p.q.

(Copy of account sued on)

1842

Nov. 1

ADAM JOHNSON

To JAMES P. LANGFORD Dr.

To cash had and received

\$700.00

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

LINCOLN'S MARRIAGE LICENSE
The State of Illinois,
Sangamon County, ss.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS.—GREETING:

KNOW YE, that License and Permission has been granted to any Minister of the Gospel, authorized to marry by the Church or Society, to which he belongs; any Justice of the Supreme Court; Justice of any Inferior Court, or any Justice of the Peace, to CELEBRATE AND RATIFY THE MARRIAGE OF

Abraham Lincoln & Mary Todd
now both of this county, according to the usual custom and laws of the State of Illinois.

WITNESS, N. W. MATHENY, Clerk of the County Court
in and for the County of Sangamon, and the Seal of said
Court hereunto affixed at SPRINGFIELD, this 4th day of
November A.D. 1842.

N. W. MATHENY, Clerk.

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
SANGAMON COUNTY. } ss.

I Certify that on the 4th day of November A.D. 1842 I joined in the Holy State of Matrimony Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd according to the custom and laws of Illinois.

Given under my Hand and Seal this 4th day of November A.D. 1842.

CHARLES DRESSER, M.G. (D.D.)

STATE OF ILLINOIS
SANGAMON CIRCUIT SCT.

John B. Weber, who sues for the use of John N. Lane and Wiloughby Webb, plaintiff, states that he holds a note on the defendant George R. Weber, in substance as followeth:

"On the first day of September eighteen hundred and fortytwo I promise to pay John B. Weber, or his heirs or assigns, two hundred and fifty dollars with twelve per cent interest from date, for value received—

June 28th 1839—

GEO. R. WEBER"

Yet the said debt remains unpaid. Wherefore he prays judgment for his debt and damages for the detention of the same together with his costs—

LOGAN & LINCOLN p.q.

I do hereby enter myself security for costs in the above cause, and acknowledge myself bound to pay or cause to be paid all costs which may accrue in said action either to the opposite party or to any of the officers of this court, in pursuance of the laws of this State.

Dated this 9th day of November A. D. 1842

A. LINCOLN.

To the Honorable the Judge of the Sangamon Circuit Court in
Chancery siting (sic)

Humbly complaining sheweth to your Honor your oratrix Eliza A. Lloyd, that some time about the first of April in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirtythree your oratrix was legally married in the county of Sangamon and State of Illinois, to one Peter Lloyd whom she prays may be made a defendant to this Bill—that she and the said Peter continued to live together, as man and wife, she performing every thing, on her part, as a dutiful and affectionate wife, from that time until about the first of April eighteen hundred and thirtyfour, being about one year; when he, the said Peter abandoned your oratrix, contrary to her will and desire, and leaving her in a helpless condition with a newborn infant—that he has never since returned to her, or furnished her any suport (sic) whatever—that he has frequently been in the county of Sangamon since he left her, though she has not seen him since that time—that he is a habitual and most abandoned drunkard—that she is informed, and verrily (sic) believes, that since he abandoned her, he was indicted in the Sangamon circuit court for larceny, and escaped by a forfeiture of his recognizance, breaking jail, or in some such way.

Your oratrix further states that she now resides in the county of Sangamon, and has so done ever since the time of her said marriage—

In tender consideration of all of which, your oratrix prays, that a writ of subpœna may issue from said court of Chancery,

requiring the said Peter Lloyd to be and appear before the said court at the next term thereof, and then and there to answer, on his corporal oath, all and singular the allegations in this Bill: and that, on a final hearing of this case, your Honor will decree, that the bonds of matrimony heretofore, and now existing, between the said Peter Lloyd and your oratrix be dissolved; and that your Honor will decree such other and further relief to your oratrix, as the equity of her case may require: And your oratrix &c—

STUART & LINCOLN
for Complainant—

Springfield, Feby. 14, 1843.

FRIEND HALL:

Your county and ours are almost sure to be placed in the same congressional district— I would like to be its Representative; still circumstances may happen to prevent my even being a candidate— If, however, there are any Whigs in Tazewell who would as soon I should represent them as any other person, I would be glad they would not cast me aside until they see and hear farther what turn things take.

Do not suppose, Esq., that in addressing this letter to you, I assume that you will be for or against all other Whigs; I only mean, that I know you to be my personal friend, a good Whig, and an Honorable man, to whom I may, without fear, communicate a fact which I wish my particular friend (if I have any) to know.

There is nothing new here now worth telling.

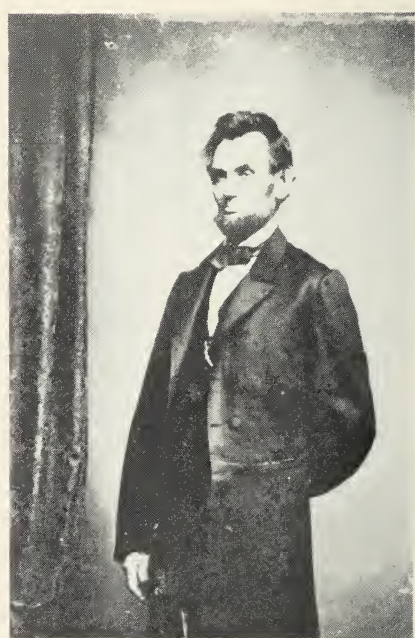
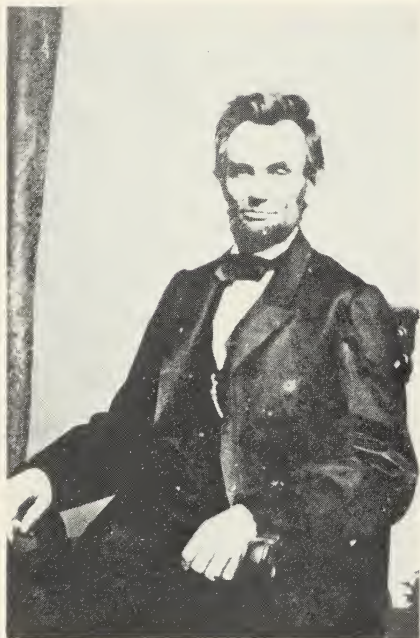
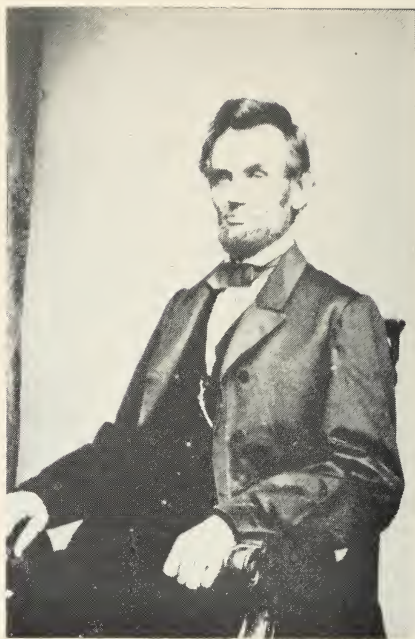
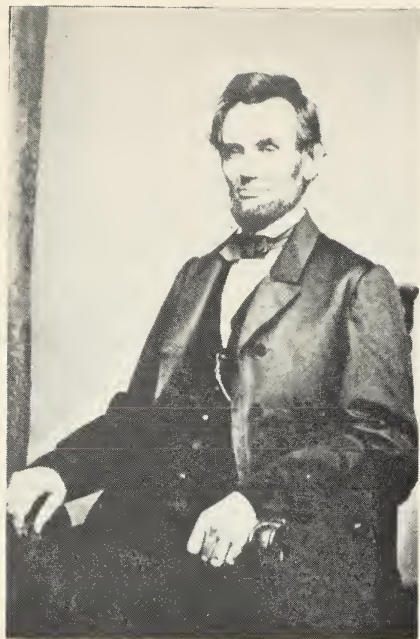
Your friend as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills., Feb. 16, 1843.

C. B. SHELEDY, Esq.:

Yours of the 10th is duly received. Judge Logan and myself are doing business together now; and we are willing to attend to your cases as you propose. As to the terms, we are willing to attend each case you prepare and send us for \$10, (when there shall be no opposition,) to be sent in advance, or you to know that it is safe. It takes \$5.75 of cost to start upon, that is, \$1.75



(From the Collection of Frederick Hill Meserve)

to clerk, and \$2 to each of two publishers of papers. Judge Logan thinks it will take the balance of \$20 to carry a case through. This must be advanced from time to time as the services are performed, as the officers will not act without. I do not know whether you can be admitted an attorney of the Federal court in your absence or not; nor is it material, as the business can be done in our names.

Thinking it may aid you a little, I send you one of our blank forms of Petitions. It, you will see, is framed to be sworn to before the Federal Court clerk, and, in your case, will have to be so far changed, as to be sworn to before the clerk of your Circuit Court; and his certificate must be accompanied with his official seal. The schedules, too, must be attended to. Be sure that they contain the *creditors* names, their *residences*, the amount due each, the *debtors* names, their residences, and the amount they owe, also all property and where located.

Also be sure that the schedules are signed by the applicants as well as the petition.

Publication will have to be made here in one paper, and in one nearest the residence of the applicant. Write us in each case where the last advertisement is to be sent, whether to you or to what paper.

I believe I have not said everything that can be of any advantage.

Your friend, as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, March 2, 1843.

FRIEND RICHARD:

I received yours of the 27th ult. in due course, for which I thank you— The fact mentioned by you, that an impression was being made that I did not wish to be a candidate, was precisely the reason of my writing you before—

The Bill forming the Districts is now a law; and our District is composed of Putnam, Marshall, Woodford, Tazewell, Logan, Mason, Menard, Cass, Scott, Morgan & Sangamon—

Last night the Whigs of the State, now here, held a meeting and recommended that a convention be held in each District on or before the first Monday of May to nominate candidates

for Congress— By this recommendation your county will have two delegates in our convention— Why might you not be one of those Delegates?

You will see the full length proceedings of the meeting in the Journal— The meeting was large, and every resolution passed unanimously (sic); and I do hope the principles & recommendations put forth by them may be responded to, with the same unanimity by our friends every where— If they shall be so responded to, we shall yet, and at no very distant day, be ~~masters~~ **of** (sic) the majority in the State—

Write me again, if it is not too troublesome—

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

R. S. THOMAS Esq.

To the Honorable the Judge of the Sangamon Circuit Court in Chancery sitting—

Humbly complaining sheweth unto your Honor your orator, Samuel Renshaw, that some time in June last, one James Boyd, being indebted to Hezekiah Thatcher in the sum of between thirty & forty dollars, procured your orator to sign a joint note for the same to said Thatcher, your orator being therein only surety for said Boyd, which fact said Thatcher well knew; that said note has become due, and judgement obtained on it before Thomas Moffett one of the Justices of the Peace of said county against both said Boyd & your orator, on which judgement an execution has issued against the property of both, and been placed in the hands of one James Barth, a constable of said county; that said Boyd has sufficient property of his own within said county, subject to said execution to satisfy the same, and has all the while been ready to deliver up the same to the said constable for that purpose, of which fact both said Thatcher and constable were duly notified before the making of the levy by said constable as herein after mentioned— Yet so it is may it please your Honor, the said Thatcher, well knowing the fact, aforesaid, and for the purpose of vexing and harrassing (sic) your orator, has directed said constable to levy said execution upon the property of your orator, which levy said constable has made, and will sell said property as your believes, unless restrained by your Honor—

Your orator further states that in case he be compelled to pay said debt, and to resort to an action against said Boyd, the additional cost that would accrue, and the length of time that would elapse, would render it doubtful whether he ever could collect the same—

In tender consideration of all which, your orator prays that said Thatcher & Barth be made defendants to this Bill, that the People's writ of subpœna issue for them; that they answer &c and that they and each of them be enjoined and restrained from further interfering with, or disturbing the property of your orator so levied on, or any other of his property, until all the property of said Boyd subject to said execution, which your orator, or said Boyd will deliver up to them, be exhausted, and that your Honor will grant such other and further relief as equity may require—

SAMUEL RENSHAW.

Sworn & Subscribed
before me this 18th
day of March 1843.

S. H. TREAT Judge &c.

Received May 11th, 1843, of William G. Cantrall, administrator of the estate of Benjamin Smith, deceased, ten dollars, in full for our fee in a chancery case in the Sangamon Circuit Court, for the rescinding of a certain contract, relative to the sale of certain lands made by Abel Pickrell to said deceased.

LOGAN and LINCOLN.

The separate answer of Thomas Affleck, to a Bill in Chancery filed against him and one Hiram Rutherford, by James Alexander administrator of John H. McClelland, deceased

This Respondent, saving and reserving to himself all and all manner of exceptions to the manifold insufficiencies, errors, and untruths, in said Bill contained, for answer to said Bill, or to so much thereof as he is advised it is material for him to answer unto says that true it is that said McClelland died about the time in said Bill alleged, and that Respondent believes said complainant has been duly appointed administrator of his estate— He also admits that said McClelland was, in his life time seized of the

town lots as in said Bill described, and that he did sell and convey the same to said Rutherford, and take said Rutherford's notes for the same for the sum of five hundred dollars, as in said Bill alleged— Respondent also admits that he was the father-in-law of said deceased; but he denies positively that he, after said McClelland's death or at any other time, seized upon, or purloined, the notes, monies, books, and effects of said McClelland, or either or any of them— Respondent states that some months before the death of said McClelland, said McClelland being indebted to J. D. & C. Jones of Cincinnati Ohio, in the sum of \$1889-79 cents—procured this respondent to take his notes to that amount, and to indorse them and deliver them to the said J. D. & C. Jones, by which Respondent became surety on said notes for said McClelland, and to indemnify Respondent, for his liability on said notes, and to induce respondent to indorse said notes and become liable on them, then and there placed in respondent's hands an amount, about equal, of notes due to himself—that the above lot of notes so placed in Respondents hands as indemnity, included the aforesaid notes of five hundred dollars on Rutherford— He further states, that further to indemnify him, said McClelland gave him a lien on certain other notes which were then in the hands of O. B. Ficklin, for collection, and the proceeds of which, if collected to be applied to the payment of the said debt to J. D. & C. Jones—the notes to J. D. & C. Jones, also being in said Ficklin's hands for collection. that after said arrangement, & before McClelland's death, he at different times took up some of the notes so placed in Respondent's hands, and substituted others in their place— Respondent further states, that a short time after McClelland's death, he, Respondent, paid off, with his own individual means, and took up from said Ficklin, the said notes to J. D. & C. Jones, and which notes are herewith filed, marked (A.) and prayed to be taken as part hereof— He also states that said Ficklin, then delivered up to him, notes placed in his hands, as above, amounting to something more than five hundred dollars.

Respondent states that he has not now, nor at any time has had, any notes in his hands belonging to said McClelland, except as above, and that all he has so had in his hands, were specifically (sic) appropriated by said McClelland to the payment of the

said J. D. & C. Jones debt, and a lien given to Respondent by said McClelland, on said notes in case he should pay said debt—

He further states, that the amount of notes so coming into his hands, exceeded the amount of the J. D. & C. Jones debt, and that he delivered the overplus to the said complainant, not because he was threatened with a suit but because he wished to retain no more than the amount that he had paid on the J. D. & C. Jones debt— He admits, that he did retain the said Rutherford notes, and did deliver them up to said Rutherford, and take a conveyance from him of said lots, as in said Bill alleged— Respondent admits that he did reside in the same house with said McClelland at the time of his death, but he denies that he has withheld from the complainant, or now has in his hands, or has in any way disposed of any thing whatever, pertaining to said deceased's estate, except as herein before states— Respondent further states that the aforesaid Rutherford notes were not payable in cash, but in cash notes, at Christmas in the year 1844, and that some others of the notes retained by him are payable in the same manner; he also states that a portion of said notes so retained by him, are discovered to have been paid to said McClelland during his lifetime, the precise amount of which he can not now state; but he expects to be able to make appear by proof if it shall become necessary— In answer to the allegation of complainant's Bill "That no contract ever was made with the said defendant Affleck giving him the control of said notes, judgements or accounts or in any way giving him a preference over any other creditor of said McClelland" respondent says that said allegation is not true; but that said McClelland did contract with him, that, in consideration of his indorsing said J. D. & C. Jones notes, he should have a lien upon the notes placed in his & O. B. Ficklins hands as aforesaid, and that in case, he, respondent, should pay said J. D. & C. Jones debt, said notes should become his, to indemnify himself for making such payment— And now having fully answered, Respondent prays that said injunction be dissolved, and that he be herein discharged with his reasonable costs—

THOMAS AFFLECK.

Sworn to and, etc.

ROBERT ALLEN, impleaded
with JOHN TAYLOR &
RICHARD F. BARRET
ads.

ELIJAH TAYLOR

And the said defendant Robert Allen, comes and defends the wrong and injury when where &c. and says plaintiff *actio non*, because he says he did not undertake and promise in manner and form as the said plaintiff in his said declaration hath alleged against him, and of this he puts himself upon the country &c.

LOGAN & LINCOLN p.d.

And the said Plff doth the like

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
SANGAMON COUNTY } ss.

Robert Allen, being first duly sworn, states on oath, that the above plea by him pleaded is true in substance and in fact—and that the note in the declaration mentioned was not executed by affiant, or by any person authorized by affiant so to do—

ROBERT ALLEN.

Subscribed & Sworn to
before me this 15th day
of November 1843.

J. CALHOUN Clk.

ROBERT S. TODD }
vs. } In Chancery in the Sangamon
NATHANIEL A. WARE } Circuit Court—

Abraham Lincoln, one of the solicitors, for the complainant in the above entitled cause, being first duly sworn, states on oath, that he has been engaged in, and attending upon, the taking of depositions to be read in the cause, that he deems it a material fact, whether or not the substance of exhibit (B.) in complainant's Bill, was indorsed upon the notes, in the Bill mentioned, at the time said notes were delivered, that he has tried in vain, to get the defendant's solicitor to produce the notes, that on the 30th day of November 1843, he delivered to defendant's solicitor a written notice, of which the paper herewith filed, marked (A) is a true copy; that on yesterday, the defendant took the deposition of Erastus Wright, who has in this whole transaction been the

agent of the defendant as affiant believes, to be read in said cause; that on cross examination of said Wright, by affiant, said Wright deposed that he had said notes then in his possession, but declined to produce the notes, or to answer whether he would produce them, or to give a reason why he would not answer; said Wright also, on said cross examination, deposed in answer to a question, whether there were any endorsements on said notes, except credits or libels, "I think there is not— If there was any put on them, it was a mere private memorandum for my own satisfaction" or words to that effect, but for greater certainty as to the exact language used, affiant refers to the deposition; that after said deposition was signed, and the witness discharged, and when it was too late, in affiant's view, for complainant to examine a new witness, as the case stood, said Wright, in a conversation with N. W. Edwards, and affiant, concerning said notes, and said supposed endorsements on them, stated, as affiant remembers, and verily believes, exactly as follows "If there were any such endorsements on the notes, I used them up some time ago"

Affiant further states, that complainant took the deposition of N. W. Edwards, previous to the taking of Wright's deposition as aforesaid, that Edwards testified that he acted as the agent of complainant, in delivering the said notes, that the substance of said exhibit (B) was endorsed on said notes, at the time of the delivery as a part of the same transaction, or to that effect, but for greater certainty affiant refers to said Edwards' deposition—

A. LINCOLN.

Sworn & Subscribed before me
this 9th day of Decr. 1843.

S. H. TREAT, Judge.

Upon the foregoing affidavit & exhibit, in connection with the pleadings, exhibits & depositions herein, the complainant moves the court to rule the defendant to file, or produce the notes in the pleadings mentioned, in court, instant—

LOGAN & LINCOLN, p.q.

This memorandum witnesseth that Charles Dresser and Abraham Lincoln of Springfield, Illinois, have contracted with each other as follows:

The said Dresser is to convey to or procure to be conveyed to said Lincoln by a clear title in fee simple, the entire premises, ground and improvements in Springfield on which said Dresser now resides and give him possession of said premises on or before the first day of April next for which said Lincoln at or before the same day, is to pay to said Dresser twelve hundred dollars, or what said Dresser shall then, at his own option, accept as equivalent thereto; and also to procure to be conveyed to said Dresser by a clear title in fee simple, the entire premises (grounds and buildings) in Springfield in the block immediately west of the public square, the building on which is now occupied by H. A. Hough, as a shop, being the same premises sometime since conveyed by N. W. Edwards & wife to said Lincoln & Stephen T. Logan, said Dresser takes upon himself to arrange with said Hough for the possession of said shop and premises.

January 7, 1844.

CHARLES DRESSER (signed)

A. LINCOLN.

Signed duplicates.

On the back of this sheet is the following:

Received of A. Lincoln on the within, seven hundred fifty dollars, on which he is to be allowed interest at the rate of twelve percent per annum until the within contract is complied with or performance offered by said Dresser; and in case said Dresser shall fail to comply with the within, we hereby bind ourselves to refund said seven hundred fifty dollars to Lincoln with interest at the rate of twelve percent per annum from date February 5, 1844.

S. M. TINSLEY.

Dec. 1, 1844—

DEAR SAM (NEWHALL) In your last letter you incline and complain that in mine, I did not notice what you had said about case of Stickney vs. Capell, nor of cases against the Shawneetown Bank. The truth is, when I received your letter, I glanced it over, stuck it away, postponing consideration of the cases, above mentioned, & forgot them altogether. I now give you some account of all your cases, in detail— Dorman v. Lane stands as it did, and I will do the best I can with it— Gatewood vs. Wood & Wood,



A Contemporary Cartoon

“Presidential Cobblers and Wire-pullers Measuring and Estimating Lincoln’s Shoes; Including Ben-
nett, Hudson, Greeley, Raymond, Weed, Seward, Brooks, Sumner, Forney, and Miss Anna Dickeson”



Wood & Wood have failed utterly to get into court book for an agreement with Mr. Eddy, what saved us— By the agreement we altered the record so as to make it appear that it had been sent to the Circuit Court, also agreeing that at the next term of the Galatin Circuit Court, all the papers and orders are to be altered there accordingly nunc pro tunc.

Springfield, Dec. 17, 1844.

DR. JOHN J.—You perhaps know of the great scramble going on here about our Post Office. Upon general principles, you know this would be no concern to the Whigs but in this particular case if it be in your power to do anything, you may thereby do the favor for some of your friends here, without disobliging any of them, so far as I believe—the man we wish appointed is J. R. Diller and the reason is that Major Spotwood's family, now comparatively destitute, will be favoured by it— I write this by an understanding with Diller himself who has seen its contents— I do not perceive *how* you can effect anything, but if you *can* and *will*, you will oblige at least

Your sincere friend

A. LINCOLN.

P.S. Let this be confidential.

LINCOLN.

TO JOHN J. HARDIN

In the Sangamon Circuit Court
July term A. D. 1845—

JONATHAN MILLER & SUSAN MILLER <i>ads.</i> WILLIAM BEATY & MARTHA ANN BEATY	}	Case, in Slander
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And the said defendants come and defend the wrong and injury, when, where &c. and say the said Susan is not guilty, in manner and form as the said plaintiffs, in their said declaration have alleged; and of this, they, the said defendants, put themselves upon the country &c.

LINCOLN & HERNDON p.d.

meaning) “have understood that Dr. Sullivan and Mrs. Beaty” (the said Martha Ann meaning) “were caught in the very act at or in the stable by Esqr. Shepherd” “Mr. Vandegrift” (meaning one Thomas Vandegrift, and being by the hearers then and there understood to mean the said Thomas) “told Mr. Miller” (the said Jonathan meaning) “so at the tan-yard”—

And the defendants aver that before the speaking of the words as aforesaid, by the said Susan, to wit, on the day of May A. D. 1845, at the county aforesaid, the said Thomas Vandegrift did speak and tell the said words as aforesaid to the said Jonathan— And so the defendants say that the said Susan did speak the said words as lawfully she might, for the cause aforesaid— And this the said defendants are ready to verify; wherefore they pray judgment &c.

LINCOLN & HERNDON p.d.

Filed: July 30th 1845

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
MENARD COUNTY } ss.

Of the November term of the
Menard Circuit Court, in
the year A.D. 1845.

Nancy Green plaintiff complains of Mentor Graham, defendant, in custody &c. of a plea of assumpsit: For that whereas the said defendant heretofore, to wit, on the 28th day of October, in the year A.D. 1844—at the County aforesaid, together with John Owens and Andrew Beerup made his promissory note in writing, bearing date the day and year aforesaid and thereby then and there promised to pay twelve months after the date thereof to the said plaintiff, the sum of one hundred dollars, with interest thereon at the rate of twelve per cent per annum, for value received and then and there delivered said note to said plaintiff—

Yet said defendant (although often requested) has not, nor has either the said Owens, or the said Beerup, paid the said sum of money in said note specified or any part thereof to said plaintiff, but so to do has wholly neglected and refused, and still does neglect and refuse—to the damage of the plaintiff of two hundred dollars and therefore she brings her suit &c.

LINCOLN & HERNDON p.q.

GEORGE W. ALBIN }
vs. } In Slander
 THOMAS BODINE }

1st Albin stole Brady's horse out of my pasture last night—
 He is a horse-thief, and that is what he came here for—

2nd Alvin stole that horse last night out of my pasture; and
 he is a horse-thief, and I knew that was his business here—

3rd He is a horse-thief, and always believed his business was
 horse-stealing, and that is what brought him here—

4th Albin stole Brady's horse out of my pasture last night;
 and it is not the first horse he has stolen— He is a horse-thief
 and follows that business—

5th You stole that horse out of my pasture, and it is not the
 first one you have stole—

6th You know you stole that horse; and it is not the first horse
 you have stole; and I believe you follow the business—

7th You are a horse-thief, and you came here for that busi-
 ness—and I believe you came here for nothing else— You are a
 horse thief—

8th He is a damn'd little thief, his business is horse stealing,
 and I can prove it—

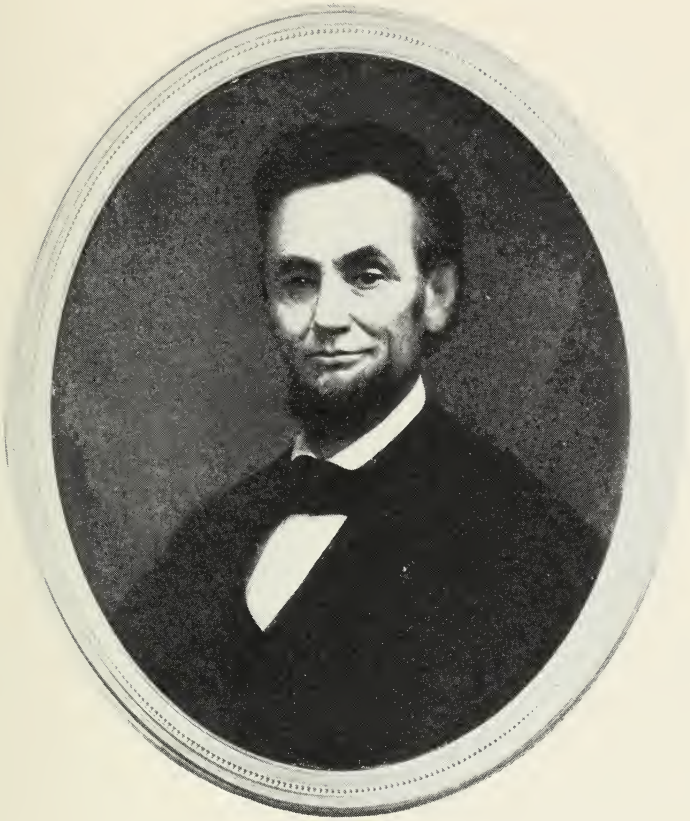
9th He is a damned little horse thief, and his business is horse
 stealing, and he came here for that business, and that is not the
 first horse he has stolen— He is a horse thief, and I will send him
 to the penitentiary.

10th Albin is a horse thief, and he stole that horse out of my
 pasture, and I can prove it—

(Endorsement: ALBIN }
vs. } Brief—
 BODINE }

To the Honorable the Judge of the Sangamon Circuit Court in
 Chancery sitting—

Humbly complaining, sheweth unto your Honor, your oratrix,
 Mary Shelby, that on the day of in the
 year 1827, in the county of Sangamon, she was lawfully married
 to one Mack Shelby (a gentleman of colour); that they continued
 to live together (though not in the highest state of connubial
 felicity) till between one and two years since; that they have not



Portrait by Matthew Wilson
(Painted for Gideon Wells, Two Weeks Before the Assassination)

lived together since that time; that during the whole, or the greater part of the time which they cohabited, the said Mack was a habitual drunkard, providing nothing for your oratrix or other members of the family, so that the maintainance (sic) of the said Mack, of her children, and of herself, wholly devolved upon your oratrix—

In consideration of which, your oratrix prays, that the People's Writ of Subpœna may issue for the said Mack Shelby, whom she prays may be made defendant herein, and that he be required to answer &c. and that on a final hearing of the cause, your Honor will decree that the bonds of matrimony heretofore and now existing between your oratrix and the said defendant be forever dissolved, and as in duty bound &c.

LINCOLN for
Complainant—

In the Supreme Court of the State of Illinois, December term A.D. 1845. Patterson & wife vs. Edwards & wife. Error to Mason.

And now we, the defendants in error, present this, our petition, for a rehearing in this cause. This court reversed the judgment of the court below;

First: Because the court below denied the motion for a new trial—and

Secondly; Because the court below denied the motion in arrest of judgment. To entitle ourselves to a rehearing, it is incumbent on us to make it appear *probable*, at least, that the court below decided correctly on *both* of these points.

And first as to the question of new trial. In reversing the judgment on this point, the court seem to proceed on the supposition that the words *alleged* and the words *proved* are not the same—that there is a *material* variance. That there is a literal variance is certain; but is it a *material* one? The words alleged are: "Mrs. Edwards has raised a family of children by a negro, and I can prove it." If we change the language from the second person, past tense, as detailed by the witnesses, to the first person, present tense, as spoken by Mrs. Patterson, the words proved by Mrs. Seymour, to have been spoken by Mrs. Patterson are: "I did tell Julius Scoville that Mrs. Edwards has had children by a negro,

and it is true"; and those proved by Mrs. Edwards are, "Your mother has had children by a negro, and all her children are negroes."

Now in what particular, this court regards these words as *proved* materially variant from those *alleged* the opinion does not state: but merely states the undeniable doctrine that it is not sufficient to prove *equivalent* words. What in the sense of the law are *equivalent* words? We understand *equivalent* words to be the words amounting to something very near the charge and quite as bad as the charge alleged; while we understand words amounting to the *identical* charge alleged, as being, in the sense of the law, not *merely equivalent* words but *the* words alleged, notwithstanding a slight literal or verbal variance—we insist that a variance to be material in law, must be a variance in *sense*. If we are right in this, we ask 'Is there any difference *in sense* between saying a woman has *raised* children by a negro, and saying she *had* children by a negro?

On the question of variance we refer the court to

1 Starkie on Slander, pages 369 to 383 inclusive & notes.

Also 2 Cowen 479-83.

But if there is a material variance, and the evidence was therefore improper to be received under the issue, still, could the party opposed, permit it to go to the jury, without objection, let us rest without supposing it necessary to introduce other evidence, take the chance of a verdict and after losing make the objection for the first time by motion for a new trial? Let it be borne in mind that the objection is not to *proper* evidence *insufficient in amount* but to *improper* evidence.

On this point we refer to 1 Bibb 248, 4 Wendell 277-283.

But if the variance is *material* and the objection might properly be taken for the first time, by a motion for a new trial, ought the court below to have allowed the motion without our attention and the court's attention being particularly drawn to the point by *reasons in writing*, according to the statute? We insist that by our statute, upon principle and upon analogous decisions, a court ought not to allow a new trial, unless the ground on which it is sought, be specifically pointed out. On page 491, Sec. 20 of an old revised code is the following, to wit: "And if either party may wish to except to the verdict, or for other causes to move for a

new trial, or in arrest of judgment, he shall, before final judgment be entered, give, by himself or counsel to the opposite party, or his counsel, the points in writing, particularly specifying the grounds of such motion and shall also furnish the judge with a copy of the same, etc."

Upon principle we say, that it is unfair to the court below, to reverse his judgment upon a point never presented to the judge's consideration; that it is unfair to us to do here, at our delay, trouble and expense what might have been done in the court below, upon the ground being fairly shown; and further, that it is probable the variances, such as it appears in the Bill of Exceptions, did not really exist; but that it got into the Bill only by the carelessness of the court below and of us; no such point being supposed to be involved. It is hardly necessary to add that no such reasons in writing, as we hold to be necessary appear by the record. For decisions bearing on this point we refer to 1 Bibb 142, 1 Scam. 233, 4 Wendell 484-9. In this last case the court say: "If counsel will not discriminate in their objections, so as to draw the attention of the court to what is conceived to be objectionable in the decision made, they are precluded from urging it as a cause for reversing the judgment."

On the question of arrest of judgment this court declared that the words "Mrs. Edwards has raised a family of children by a negro" do not, "in their plain and popular sense, or in common acceptation, *necessarily* amount to charge of adultery." Wherein these words vary from, or fall short of such a charge, the opinion does not state. Whether the court believe that these words do not mean, that Mrs. Edwards had raised a family of children, of whom she was the mother, and a negro was the *father*; or whether, admitting this, the court believe she may have been the wife of the negro, and therefore, may have borne children by him without adultery, the opinion shows nothing from which we can judge. Until the decision of this court, we had never supposed there could be a rational doubt that these words would be construed by all who might hear them, as the declaration construes them. We have thought, and still do think, that if twelve plain men should enter this room and each, out of the hearing of the others should be told these words, not one of them would fail to attach to them the very meaning that the declaration attaches to them. But we may

be mistaken; and we now proceed to treat them as being of more doubtful import than we had thought. The opinion says the words "do not *necessarily* amount to a charge of adultery etc." We say, as matter of law, that to sustain the judgment of the court below, they *need* not *necessarily* to amount to such a charge. We say they need only be *capable* of the meaning attached to them by the declaration; even though the contrary meaning were more probably the true one. In this, we do not speak without the books. We will furnish the court, if they desire, with a new edition, in two volumes, of Starkie on Slander, and refer to Volume 1—pages 44 to 51 inclusive. The construction of words of doubtful meaning is there fully discussed. It is there shown that there *was* an *old*, and *is a new* rule on the subject; that the old rule was to construe words in *mitiori sensu*, or, in the most favourable sense for the defendant, which they were capable of bearing, never allowing a plaintiff to have a judgment, unless the words *necessarily* amounted to the charge he alleged in his declaration; that this old rule has been exploded nearly or quite a hundred years; and a new rule fully established. A train of decisions under each rule is given; and on side pages 59 & 60 the author sums up in these words.

From these cases containing the opinion of some of the most enlightened judges of their own, or any other times, it may be collected; 1st That when words are capable of *two constructions* in what sense they were meant, is a matter of fact to be *decided by the jury*. 2nd That they (the jury) are to be guided, in forming their opinion by the impression which the words or signs used were calculated to make on the minds of those who heard or saw them, as collected from the whole of the circumstances.

3rd That such words or signs will, after verdict for the plaintiff be considered by the court to have been used in their worst sense. See notes also. Also see 2 Cowen 479 to 82 where the court say—"But aside from the difficulty as to the remedy, it is a sufficient answer to this application that the words proved would admit of some doubt as to their meaning, and where there is room for the least criticism upon their import, it is properly a question for the jury, whose decision is conclusive." For these reasons your petitioners pray for a rehearing of said cause.

LINCOLN p.q.

Dec. 3, '45.

T. S. Marshal re Dornn Lane case. "I think we can plead limitation of time on them, so that it will stick for good & all. Don't speak of this, lest they hear it, and take the claim."

Received Feby. 6, 1846, of Johnson Whaley ten dollars in full of my fee, for attending to the case throughout as attorney, in the case of the application of said Whaley as guardian of the heirs of McElyea, for the sale of real estate and reinvestment of proceeds in other real estate.

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills.,
Feb. 24, 1846.

DEAR JOHNSTON:

Feeling a little poetic this evening, I have concluded to redeem my promise this evening by sending you the piece you expressed the wish to have. You find it enclosed. I wish I could think of something else to say; but I believe I can not. By the way, how would you like to see a piece of poetry of my own making? I have a piece that is almost done, but I find a deal of trouble to finish it.

Give my respects to Mr. Williams, and have him, together with yourself, to understand, that if there is any thing I can do, in connection with your business in the courts, I shall take pleasure in doing it, upon notice.

Yours forever,

A. LINCOLN.

It is hereby agreed by and between Abraham Lincoln of the City of Springfield, Illinois, and Christopher Ludlum of the same place, that the said Lincoln lets to the said Ludlum the dwelling house in which said Lincoln now lives, in said city, together with the lot on which it stands, and the other appurtenances of said lot, for the term of one year, to commence on the first day of November next; for which the said Ludlum agrees to pay said Lincoln the sum of ninety dollars, in quarter yearly payments, to be especially careful to prevent any destruction by fire, to allow said Lincoln the use of the North-up-stairs room, during the term, in which to store his furniture, and to return the premises

at the end of the year in as good repair as he may receive them ordinary decay only excepted.

October 23rd 1847.

A. LINCOLN.

C. LUDLUM

House of Representatives, Decr—8—1847

His Excellency, the President of the U. States.

DEAR SIR:

Mr. Franklin L. Rhoads, of Pekin, Illinois, desires the appointment to a Lieutenantcy in the U. S. Army, as you perceive by the Petition accompanying this— Mr. Rhoads is a Whig; but of the fifteen persons who sign his Petition, I personally know five to be influential Democrats, five Whigs, and the remaining five to be respectable men, though their politics are unknown to me— The Mr. Jones, who writes the accompanying letter, addressed to me, has received a Military education and was Mr. Rhoads' Captain in the battle of Cerro Gordo— If the appointment could be conferred (sic) on Mr. Rhoads, I should be personally grateful for it—

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

A. LINCOLN.

WASHINGTON, *December 10, 1847.*

FRIEND YATES: I presented your claim to Douglass this morning; he says it is all right and that he will pay it in a few days. When he shall have done so, you shall hear from me at once.

Things have not advanced far enough to enable me to tell you much in the way of politics, more than you see in the papers. I believe Mr. Calhoun and what force he can control are preparing to support Gen. Taylor for the Presidency. I get this impression from conversations with Duff Greene, who boards at the same house I do. There are, however, a great many Whigs here who do not wish to go for Taylor, and some of whom I fear can not be brought to do it. There are still many others of them who are strong for him, among whom I class Mr. Crittenden, although he does not expressly say so. I shall be pleased to have a line from you occasionally.

Yours, truly,

A. LINCOLN.

To Franklin Pierce.

Washington, Dec. 11, 1847.

His Excellency, the President.

Some days since I transmitted to you the application of Mr. Rhoads of Pekin Illinois, for a Lieutenancy. Since then I have received the enclosed letter of Hon. E. D. Baker, in his behalf, which I now take the liberty of submitting to you—

Your Obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

SUBJECT: MAILS

(Note. Both the Nicolay and Hay and the Tandy Works give Lincoln's speech in the House on January 5, 1848, in part only, closing the record with the end of the 5th paragraph— It would be fair and just.) The part of the speech thus carried is only one third of the entire speech. The Globe record shows that Mr. Lincoln was interrupted by a question by Mr. Hilliard, and then continues:

Mr. Lincoln said that he had made an effort some few days since to obtain the floor in relation to this measure, but had failed. One of the objects he had then had in view was now in a great measure superseded by what had fallen from the gentleman from Virginia who had just taken his seat. He begged to assure his friends on the other side of the House, that no assault whatever was meant upon the Postmaster General; and he was glad that what the gentleman had now said, modified to a great extent the impression which might have been created by the language he had used on a previous occasion. He wanted to state to gentlemen who might have entertained such impressions, that the Committee on the Post Office was composed of five Whigs and four Democrats, and their report was understood as sustaining, not impugning, the position taken by the Postmaster General. That report had met with the approbation of all the Whigs and of all the Democrats also, with the exception of one, and he wanted to go even further than this. [Intimations were here informally given to Mr. L. that it was not in order to mention on the floor what had taken place in committee.] He then ob-

served that if he had been out of order in what he had said, he took it all back, [a laugh,] so far as he could. He had no desire, he could assure gentlemen, ever to be out of order—though he never could keep long *in* order.

Mr. L. went on to observe, that he differed in opinion, in the present case, from his honorable friend from Richmond, [Mr. Botts.] That gentleman had begun his remarks by saying that if all prepossessions in this matter could be removed out of the way, but little difficulty would be experienced in coming to an agreement. Now, he could assure that gentleman that he had himself begun the examination of this subject with prepossessions all in his favor. He had long and often heard of him, and, from what he had heard, was prepossessed in his favor. Of the Postmaster General he had also heard, but had no prepossessions in his favor, though certainly none of an opposite kind. He differed, however, from that gentleman in politics, while in this respect he agreed with the gentleman from Virginia, [Mr. Botts,] whom he wished to oblige whenever it was in his power. That gentleman had referred to the report made to the House by the Postmaster General, and had intimated an apprehension that gentlemen would be disposed to rely on that report alone, and derive their views of the case from that document alone. Now, it so happened that a pamphlet had been slipped into his (Mr. L.'s) hand before he read the report of the Postmaster General; so that, even in this, he had begun with prepossessions in favor of the gentleman from Virginia.

As to the report, he had but one remark to make: he had carefully examined it, and he did not understand that there was any dispute as to the facts therein stated: the dispute, if he understood it, was confined altogether to the inferences to be drawn from those facts. It was a difference not about facts, but about conclusions. The facts were not disputed. If he was right in this, he supposed the House might assume the facts to be as they were stated, and thence proceed to draw their own conclusions.

The gentleman had said that the Postmaster General had got into a personal squabble with the railroad company. Of this, Mr. L. knew nothing; nor did he need or desire to know anything, because it had nothing whatever to do with a just conclusion from the premises. But the gentleman had gone on to ask whether

so great a grievance as the present detention of the southern mail ought not to be remedied? Mr. L. would assure the gentleman that if there was a proper way of doing it, no man was more anxious than he that it should be done. The report made by the committee had been intended to yield much for the sake of removing that grievance. That the grievance was very great, there was no dispute in any quarter. He supposed the statements made by the gentleman from Virginia to show this were all entirely correct in point of fact. He did suppose that the interruptions of regular intercourse, and all the other inconveniences growing out of it, were all as that gentleman had stated them to be; and certainly, if redress could be rendered, it was proper it should be rendered as soon as possible. The gentleman said that, in order to effect this, no new legislative action was needed: all that was necessary was, that the Postmaster General should be required to do what the law, as it stood, authorized and required him to do.

We come, then, said Mr. L., to the law. Now the Postmaster General says that he cannot give to this company over \$237.50 per railroad mile of transportation, and 12½ per cent. less for transportation by steamboats. He considers himself as restricted by law to this amount; and he says, further, that he would not give more if he could, because, in his apprehension, it would not be fair and just.

Mr. Hilliard here wished to be set right in his apprehension of the facts of the case, and he made some inquiry not distinctly heard across the Hall; and, after a brief conversation, expressing himself satisfied, resumed his seat.

Mr. Lincoln proceeded. I had the impression that the service rendered under the present contract cost the Government more than if the mail were carried by the railroad company, in consequence of its passing over a longer route. Understanding this, my view of the question remains unchanged.

And now as to the law: I am not disposed to discuss it at any very great length; for, as the appeal is here to the law-making power, which can alter the law whenever a modification is required, there does not seem any necessity of very nicely discussing what it is as it now stands. If it shall be clearly shown what naked justice requires, it will be easy to make the law conform to that requirement. But let us look at it as it stands.

There are three laws which have a bearing on this question: the first authorizes the Postmaster General to give to a contractor 25 per cent. more for the transportation of the mail over railroads than for similar transportation in mail-coaches; another law says that the Postmaster General shall not allow more than \$300 per mile for daily transportation, provided that his contract does not conflict with the provisions of the law first referred to. Then there is a third law which directs the Postmaster General to classify the sorts of service rendered. It was this which caused him to give less for transportation by steamboats than over railroads; he graduated the compensation for this at a point midway between that by railroad and that by mail-coaches. The difference between railroad and coach being but 25 per cent., he placed the price for steamboat transportation at 121½ per cent. above the one and below the other. I do not understand that this construction of the law by the Postmaster General is held in any quarter to be wrong. The fact that the law allows him to pay \$300 for daily transportation and for more frequent than daily, has been alluded to; but, as I understand, the position is not taken that he is authorized to allow this company \$300 per mile. If it is, I shall proceed to examine it. All must admit that all the laws on the subject are extremely loose and general in their language; that they admit of different constructions; and that no one construction that can be given them leaves the mind entirely satisfied. The law allows \$300 to be paid for transporting the mail daily or oftener, thereby fixing the compensation for one transportation and for two at the same amount. This alone is enough to show that the law is not very definite in its provisions, and in fact it is hardly possible to put an equitable construction upon it. It refers to a prior law, and says it is not to be construed so as to interfere with it.

From the whole of what the gentleman from Virginia has said, I understand his sense of the matter to be, that we are in this case to be governed by the old law. Now, I ask the lawyers in this House (I suppose there are some) [a laugh] whether I am not right when I say, that where a law has been passed in terms so general as to require a construction to be put upon it, (and this is the case with most laws,) and constructions of its provisions are accordingly given, and a second law is afterwards passed

referring to the first, this second law is held to recognize and to confirm the constructions put upon that first passed? If this is so, then I say that the Postmaster General was not wrong when he insisted that the latter law, when it referred to the former, meant to refer to it as construed; in which case the construction seems to be confirmed and strengthened by the last passed.

But, looking only to the original construction itself of the old law, the gentleman from Virginia says that Mr. Kendall's construction of the terms "similar transportation by mail coaches," was wrong, and that he ought to have construed it to mean transportation of the same mail not only, but by the same route. But, now, suppose there was no mail-coach transportation on that route, what must his construction be in that case? What did the present Postmaster General in fact do? He took the most expensive mail-coach route in the nation. He took the prices allowed for coach transportation on different portions of that route, and averaged them, and then built his construction of the law upon that average. It came to \$190 per mile. He added 25 per cent. to that rate, and offered the result to this railroad company. The gentleman from Virginia says that this was wrong: I say it was right.

But the gentleman says he ought to have reckoned coach transportation on that specific route. Well, if he had done so, he would have added 25 per cent. upon \$5,000, and no more; for the Postmaster General tells us that before he made his contract with this railroad company, the same mail had been carried for between \$5,000 and \$6,000. The company now get \$28,000, and are not satisfied. Had he taken the same rate then, where would they have been? If there had been a coach line, he would not have gained anything by that. For I have inquired at what rate the mail could be carried by coaches from Washington to Richmond, and I have heard that the lowest bid ever made was \$28,000. If he had added 25 per cent. to that, it would have been more than the company asks. This fact, and one other item that I obtained, are all that I had to enable me to get at justice in this case. An old gentleman, whose very good looks prepossessed me in his favor, and would incline me to believe any statement he should make, told me that he had been a stockholder in the road, and had never got over 5 per cent. dividend on his stock. The same

source of information admitted that since the construction of the railroad, mail-coaches had been wholly disused. It is a bad road, and always has been, and the mail could not now be carried over it in coaches for three or four times what it might have been, had not the railroad been constructed.

I think that abundant reasons have been given to show that the construction put upon the law by the Postmaster General is the right construction, and that subsequent acts of Congress have confirmed it. I have already said that the grievance complained of ought to be remedied. But it is said that the sum of money about which all this difficulty has arisen is exceeding small—not more than \$2,700. I admit it is very small; and if nothing else were involved, it would not be worth the dispute. But there is a principle involved; and if we once yield to a wrong principle, that concession will be the prolific source of endless mischief. It is for this reason, and not for the sake of saving \$2,700, that I am unwilling to yield what is demanded. If I had no apprehensions that the ghost of this yielding would rise and appear in various distant places, I would say, pay the money, and let us have no more fuss about it. But I have such apprehensions. I do believe, that if we yield this, our act will be the source of other claims equally unjust, and therefore I cannot vote to make the allowance.

And now, I suppose, I may, without being out of order, tell what I was willing, in committee, to yield for the sake of removing this evil. I was willing to give as damages what the department would have to pay the Bay Company for breach of contract, be it \$2,700, or whatever amount. Be it what it might, it would be so much money gone; it would never rise again.

Mr. L. insisted that the true and great point to which the attention of this House or the committee should be directed was, what is a just compensation? Inasmuch as this railroad and steamboat company could afford greater facilities than any other line, the service ought to be done upon this route; but it ought to be done upon just and fair principles. If it could not be done at what had been offered, let it be shown that a greater amount was just. But, until it was shown, he was opposed to increasing it. He had seen many things in the report of the Postmaster General and elsewhere that stood out against the river route. Now, the daily steamboat transportation between Troy and New York

was performed for less than one hundred dollars per mile. This company was dissatisfied with two hundred and twelve or two hundred and thirteen dollars per mile. It had not been shown, and he thought it could not be shown to them why this company was entitled to more, or so much more, than the other received. It was true, they had to encounter the ice, but was there not more ice further north? There might possibly be shown some reason why the Virginia line should have more; but was there any reason why they should have so much more? Again, the price paid between Cincinnati and Louisville for daily transportation was not two hundred and thirteen dollars per mile, or one hundred dollars, or fifty; it was less than twenty-eight dollars per mile. Now, he did not insist that there might not be some peculiar reasons connected with this route between this city and Richmond that entitled it to more than was paid on the routes between Cincinnati and Louisville, and Troy and New York. But, if there were reasons, they ought to be shown. And was it supposed that there could be any, or so peculiar reasons, as to justify so great a difference in compensation as was claimed by this company? It did seem that there could be none.

These reasons actuated him in taking the position he had taken, painfully refusing to oblige his friend from Virginia, which he assured the gentleman he had the greatest inclination to do.

In relation to the report of the committee, let him state one thing: It proposed that the Postmaster General should again offer this company what he had already offered and they had refused. It was for the reason that the Postmaster General, as he understood, had informed them that he was not himself going to renew the proposition. The committee supposed—at any rate, he (Mr. L.) supposed—that as soon as the company should know that they could get what he had offered them, and no more—as soon as all hope of greater compensation was cut off—that instant they would not take ten thousand dollars a year for the privilege of doing it. Whether this was actually the case he did not profess positively to know; it was a matter of opinion, but he firmly believed it. In proposing to offer them the contract again, as he had already said, the committee yielded something,

viz. the damage that the Government would have to pay for the breaking up of the present arrangement. He was willing to incur that damage; some other gentlemen were not; they were further away from the position which his friend from Virginia took. He was willing to yield something, but could not consent to go the whole length with the gentleman.

In relation to what the damage would be, it would of course depend upon what was shown to this House and to the Senate to be fair and reasonable. It was a general principle of law that this Government could not be sued upon any contract. It was a principle of the common law that no judgment can go against the State, and it had been confirmed by the Supreme Court of the United States in repeated instances. Now, how was this company to get anything for their damages? Why, simply by coming here and laying their case before Congress.

Mr. L. concluded by remarking that this was all he wished to say. If there was any portion of his hour left, he would only ask that it should be passed to his credit for some future occasion. . . .

Mr. Lincoln here interposed, and (Mr. G. yielding) said that the gentleman had misunderstood him. He had said a majority of one party and the whole of the other had supported the resolution in committee. . . .

Mr. Lincoln obtained the floor. The committee rose and reported progress, and then the house adjourned. . . .

By Mr. Lincoln: A bill to amend an act entitled, "An act to raise for a limited time an additional military force, and for other purposes," approved February 11, 1847.

Washington, Jany. 19, 1848.

FRIEND DILLER:

Your letter of the 27th Decr was received only the day before yesterday— The very best I can do with your case, I will— Send to me just as soon as you can, the affidavit of one of your clerks, showing the number of mails you receive per week; the number you send away per week; the number of pounds weight of mails you handle daily, besides that stopping at your own office; the number of hands, including yourself, you have to con-

stantly employ; and what you pay them; how many hours out of the twentyfour you are obliged to be up and at work; and how much you have to pay annually, besides clerk-hire, for matters connected with the office, which the Govt does not allow you for— Whether Govt allows for room-rent, candles, and fuel, I dont know, but if it does not, then will fill in the item last mentioned— If, in this way you can show that your compensation is too small, I think I can get it increased; but the bare fact that you get less than you used to do, will not enable me to get along— We have had one such case, which was sneered out of court— I am really interested for you, & wish you to lose no time in doing as I tell you— Show this letter to Logan, and get him to frame the affidavit—adding any thing that may occur to you or him which I may have forgotten—

Tell Hickox I received his claim, and will do the best with it I can; but that I fear I can not get along with it—

I am kept very busy here; and one thing that perplexes me more than most any thing else, are the cases of Whigs calling on me to get them appointments to places in the army, from the President. There are two great obstacles in the way which they do not seem to understand—first, the President has no such appointments to give—and secondly, if he had, he could hardly be expected to give them to Whigs, at the solicitation of a Whig Member of Congress—

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Washington—Feb. 17, 1848.

DEAR SIR:

Your letter in relation to various claims for County lands, has been received, and laid before the Commissioner of Pensions,— So soon as he shall examine them and give me an answer, I will write you, enclosing it—

Hurra for Gen: Taylor—

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Wm. H. Young:

H. R. Feb: 17, 1848—

HON: T. S. FLORNEY,

Dear Sir:

In answer to your enquiries, I have to say I am in favor of Gen: Taylor as the Whig candidate for the Presidency because I am satisfied we can elect him, that he would give us a Whig administration, and that we can not elect any other Whig—

In Illinois, his being our candidate, would *certainly* give us one additional member of Congress, if not more; and *probably* would give us the electoral vote of the state— That with him, we can, in that state, make great inroads among the rank and file of the Democrats, to my mind is certain; but the majority against us there, is so great, that I can no more than express my *belief* that we can carry the state—

Very respectfully,

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, March 1, 1848.

FRIEND FELL:

Your kind letter of the 7th, February, enclosing a petition for peace, was received a day or two ago. I shall present it at the proper time.

It now seems to be understood on all hands that the war is over—that the treaty sent in will be ratified.

I will try to get the time to write you a longer letter soon; but I am really too much hurried to do so now.

Yours as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

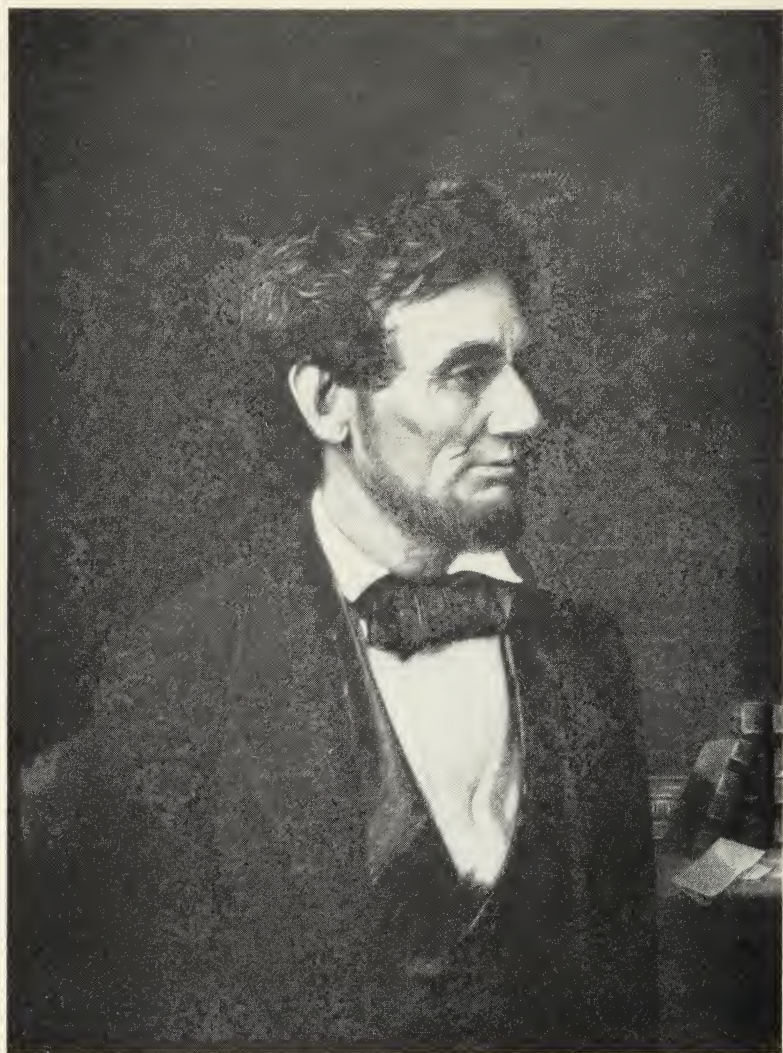
J. W. Fell: Payson, Ills.

March 6, 1848.

MR. SOLOMON LINCOLN,

Dear Sir:

Your letter to Mr. Hale, in which you do me the honor of making some kind enquiries concerning me, has been handed me by Mr. Hale, with the request that I should give you the desired information. I was born Feb. 12th, 1809, in Hardin County, Kentucky. My father's name is Thomas: my grandfather was



Engraving by T. Doney

Abraham, the same as my own. My grandfather went from Rockingham county, in Virginia, to Kentucky, about the year 1782; and, two years afterwards, was killed by the Indians. We have a vague tradition, that my great-grandfather went from Pennsylvania to Virginia, and that he was a Quaker. Further back than this, I have never heard anything. It may do no harm to say that "Abraham" and "Mordecai" are common names in our family; while the name "Levi," so common among the Lincolns of New England, I have not known in any instance among us.

Owing to my father being left an orphan at the age of six years, in poverty, and in a new country, he became a wholly uneducated man, which I suppose is the reason why I know so little of our family history. I believe I can say nothing more that would at all interest you. If you shall be able to trace any connection between yourself and me, or, in fact, whether you shall or not, I should be pleased to have a line from you at any time.

Very respectfully,

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, March 22, 1848.

FRIEND LINDER:

Yours of the 15th is just received, as was a day or two ago, one from Dunbar on the same subject— Although I address this to you alone, I intend it for you, Dunbar, and Bishop, and wish you to show it to them— In Dunbar's letter, and in Bishop's paper, it is assumed that Mr. Crittenden's position on the war is correct— Well, so I think— Please wherein is my position different from his? Has *he* ever approved the President's conduct in the beginning of the war, or his mode or objects in prosecuting it? Never— He condemns both— True, he votes supplies, and so do I— What, then, is the difference, except that he is a great man and I am a small one?

Towards the close of your letter you ask three questions, the first of which is "Would it not have been just as easy to have elected Genl. Taylor without opposing the war as by opposing it?" I answer, I suppose it would, if we could do *neither*—could be *silent* on the question; but the Locofocos here will not let the whigs be *silent*. Their very first act in Congress was to present a preamble declaring that war existed by the act of Mexico,

and the whigs were obliged to vote on it—and this policy is followed up by them, so that they are compelled to *speak* and their only option is whether they will, when they do speak, tell the *truth*, or tell a foul, villainous, and bloody falsehood— But, while on this point, I protest against your calling the condemnation of Polk “opposing the war”— In thus assuming that all must be opposed to the war, even though they vote supplies, who do not now endorse Polk, with due deference I say I think you fall into one of the artfully set traps of Locofocoism—

Your next question is “And suppose we could succeed in proving it a wicked and unconstitutional war, do we not thereby strip Taylor and Scott of more than half their laurels?” Whether it would so strip them is not matter of demonstration, but of *opinion* only; and my opinion is that it would not; but as your opinion seems to be different, let us call in some others as umpire— There are in this H. R. some more than forty members who support Genl. Taylor for the Presidency, every one of whom has voted that the war was “unnecessarily and unconstitutionally commenced by the President” every one of whom has spoken to the same effect, who has spoken at all, and not one of whom supposes he thereby strips Genl. of any laurels— More than this; two of these, Col. Haskell and Major Gaines, themselves fought in Mexico; and yet they vote and speak just as the rest of us do, without ever dreaming that they “strip” themselves of any laurels— There may be others, but Capt. Bishop is the only intelligent whig who has been to Mexico, that I have heard of taking different ground—

Your third question is “And have we as a party, ever gained any thing by falling in company with abolitionists?” Yes— We gained our only national victory by falling in company with them in the election of Genl. Harrison— Not that we fell into abolition doctrines; but that we took up a man whose position induced them to you as in his election— But this question is not so significant as a *question*, as it is as a charge of abolitionism against those who have chosen to speak their minds against the President— As you and I perhaps would again differ as to the justice of this charge, let us once more call in our umpire— There are in this H. R. whigs from the slave states as follows: one from Louisiana, one from Mississippi, one from Florida, two

from Alabama, four from Georgia, five from Tennessee, six from Kentucky, six from North Carolina, six from Virginia, four from Maryland and one from Delaware, making thirtyseven in all, and all slaveholders, every one of whom votes the commencement of the war "unnecessary and unconstitutional" and so falls subject to your charge of abolitionism!—

"*En passant*" these are all *Taylor* men, except one in Tenn—two in Ky, one in N.C. and one in Va— Besides which we have one in Ills—two in Ia, three in Ohio, five in Penn—four in N.J. and one in Conn— While this is less than half the whigs of the H.R. it is three times as great as the strength of any other one candidate.

You are mistaken in your impression that any one has communicated expressions of yours and Bishop's to me— In my letter to Dunbar, I only spoke from the impression made by seeing in the paper that you and he were, "in the degree, though not in the extreme" on the same tack with Latshaw—

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

March 24, 1848

MR. SOLOMON LINCOLN,

Dear Sir: Yours of the 21st is received. I shall not be able to answer your interrogatories very fully. I will, however, do the best I can. I have mentioned that my grandfather's name was Abraham. He had, as I think I have heard, four brothers, Isaac, Jacob, Thomas and John. He had three sons, Mordecai, Josiah and Thomas, the last, my father. My Uncle Mordecai had three sons, Abraham, James and Mordecai. Uncle Jonah had several daughters, and an only son, Thomas. My father had an only child, myself, of course. This is all I know certainly on the subject of name; it is, however, my father's understanding that Abraham, Mordecai and Thomas are old family names of ours. The reason I did not mention Thomas as a family name in my other letter was because it is so very common a name, as to prove but little, if anything, in the way of identification.

Since I wrote you, it occurred to me to inquire of Governor McDowell, who represents the district in Virginia, including Rockingham, whether he knew persons of our name there. He in-

forms he does; though none very intimately except one, an old man by the Christian name of David. That he is of our family I have no doubt. I now address him a letter, making such inquiries as suggest themselves; and, when I shall receive an answer, I will communicate to you anything that may seem pertinent to your object.

Very truly yours,

A. LINCOLN.

Mr. Lincoln, from the same committee, reported a bill authorizing postmasters at county seats of justice to receive subscriptions for newspapers and periodicals, to be paid through the agency of the postoffice Department, and for other purposes. Read and committed.

Springfield, Ill., April 13, 1848.

HON. SECRETARY OF THE HOME DEPARTMENT,

Dear Sir:

Under date of the 7th inst., I forwarded to you, in separate letters, recommendations that Walter Davis be Receiver, and Turner R. King, Registrar of the Land Office at this place. For a personal reason, of no consequence to the Department, I now wish to transpose those recommendations; so that Davis may stand for Registrar, and King for Receiver.

Your Obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, April 16, 1848.

DEAR MARY:

In this troublesome world, we are never quite satisfied. When you were here, I thought you hindered me some in attending to business but now, having nothing but business—no vanity—it has grown exceedingly tasteless to me. I hate to sit down and direct accounts, and I hate to stay in the old room by myself. You know I told you in last Sunday's letter I was going to make a little speech during the week and the week has passed away without my getting a chance to do so and now my interest in the subject has passed away too. Your second and third letters

have been received since I wrote before. Dear Eddy thinks father is 'gone Tapila.' Has any further discovery been made as to the breaking into your grandmother's house? If I were she I would not remain there alone. You mention that your Uncle John Parker is likely to be at Lexington. Don't forget to present him my very kindest regards.

I went yesterday to hunt the little plaid stockings as you wished, but found that McKnight has quit business and Allen had not a single pair of the description you gave and only one plaid pair of any sort that I thought would fit "Eddy's dear little feet." I have a notion to make another trial tomorrow morning. If I could get them, I have an excellent chance of sending them. Mr. Warrick Tunstall, of St. Louis is here. He is to leave early this week and to go by Lexington. He says he knows you, and will call to see you, and he voluntarily asked if I had not some package to send to you.

I wish you would enjoy yourself in every possible way, but is there no danger of wounding the feelings of your good father, by being openly intimate with the Wickliffe family? Mrs. Broome has not removed yet, but she thinks of doing so tomorrow.

All the house or rather all with whom you were on decided good terms send their love to you. The others say nothing. Very soon after you went away, I got what I think a very pretty set of shirt bosom studs—modest little ones jet set in gold only costing 50 cents a piece or 1.50 for the whole.

Suppose you do not prefix the "Hon." to the address on your letters to me any more. I like the letters very much but I would rather they should not have that upon them. It is not necessary as I suppose you have thought to have them come free.

And you are entirely free from headache? That is good—considering it is the first spring you have been free from it since we were acquainted—I am afraid you will get so well and fat and young as to be wanting to marry again. Tell Louisa I want her to watch you a little for me. Get weighed and write me how much you weigh. I did not get rid of the impression of that foolish dream about dear Bobby, till I got your letter written the same day.

What did he and Eddie think of the little letters father sent them? Don't let the blessed fellow forget father. A day or two ago

Mr. Strong, here in Congress said to me that Matilda would visit here within two or three weeks. Suppose you write her a letter, and enclose it in one of mine, and if she comes I will deliver it to her, and if she does not, I will send it to her.

Most affectionately

A. LINCOLN.

Lexington, May —, 48.

MY DEAR HUSBAND:

You will think indeed that old age has set its seal upon my humble self, that in few or no letters I can remember the day of the month. I must confess it is one of my peculiarities.

I feel wearied and tired enough to know that this is Saturday night, our babies are asleep, and as Aunt Maria B. is coming for me tomorrow morning, I think the chances will be rather dull that I should answer your last letter tomorrow.

I have just received a letter from Frances W., it related in especial manner to the box I had desired her to send, she thinks with you (as good persons generally agree) that it would cost more than it would come to, and it might be lost on the road. I rather expect she has examined the special articles and thinks, as Levi says, they are rather hard bargains. But it takes so many changes to do children, particularly in summer, that I thought it might save me a few stitches. I think I will write her a few lines this evening, directing her to send them. She says Willie is just recovering from another spell of sickness, Mary or none of them are well. Springfield, she reports, as dull as usual—Uncle S. was to leave there on yesterday for Ky.

Our little Eddie has recovered from his spell of sickness—Dear boy, I must tell you a little story about him. Bobby in his wanderings today, came across in a yard a little kitten, your hobby; he says he asked a man for it. He brought it triumphantly to the house. So soon as Eddie spied it, his tenderness broke forth, he made them bring it water, fed it with bread himself with his own dear hands, he was a delighted little creature over it. In the midst of his happiness Ma came in. She, you must know, dislikes the whole cat race. I thought in a very unfeeling manner, she ordered the servant near to throw it out which of course was

done—Ed screaming and protesting loudly against the proceeding. She never appeared to mind his screams, which were long and loud, I assure you. 'Tis unusual for her nowadays to do anything quite so striking, she is very obliging and accommodating, but if she thought any of us were on her hands again, I believe she would be worse than ever. In the next moment she appeared in a good humor, I know she did not intend to offend me. By the way, she has just sent me up a glass of ice-cream, for which this warm evening I am duly grateful.

The country is so delightful I am going to spend two or three weeks out there, it will doubtless benefit the children. Grandma has just received a letter from Uncle James Parker of Miss. saying he & his family would be up by the twenty-fifth of June, would remain here some little time and go on to Philadelphia to take their oldest daughter there to school. I believe it would be a good chance to pack up and accompany them. You know I am so fond of sight-seeing & I did not get to New York or Boston, or travel the lake route. But, perhaps, dear husband, like the irresistible Col. Mc. cannot do without his wife next winter and must needs take her with him again. I expect you would cry aloud against it.

How much I wish, instead of writing, we were together this evening, I feel very sad away from you.

Ma & myself rode out to Mr. Bell's splendid place this afternoon to return a call. The house and grounds are magnificent. Frances W. would have died over their rare exotics.

It is growing late, these summer eves are short, I expect my long scrawls, for truly such they are, weary you greatly. If you come on in July or August, I will take you to the Springs. Patty Webb's school in S closes the first of July. I expect Mr. Webb will come for her. I must go down about that time & carry on quite a flirtation (you know we always had a penchant that way).

I must bid you goodnight. Do not fear the children have forgotten you. I was only jesting. Even E's eyes brighten at the mention of your name.

My love to all.

Truly yours

M. L.

To J. T. Towers.

Washington, May 3, 1848.

MR. J. T. TOWERS

Dear Sir:

I understand that the speech of Mr. Wick, of Indiana, is printed at your office— Please send to the folding room for me, three hundred copies of it, and oblige

Yours &c.

A. LINCOLN.

Mr. Lincoln said the objection stated by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. Hall) struck him as being a sound one; and he wished to ascertain if there was anything further to be learned about this claim, for he desired fully to understand it. He understood that the volunteers who served in Mexico were not by any general law entitled to pay for lost horses, and he understood that if this resolution should pass, the Texas volunteers would be entitled to compensation for lost horses, thus they would be placed in more favorable circumstances than others.

Further along in the same discussion:

Mr. Lincoln said the payment for these lost horses came within a class of cases in which he was a good deal like a gentleman near him, who was in favor of paying for everything by way of being sure of paying all those that were right. But if this resolution should be passed, and the general law should fail, then everybody but these Texas volunteers would go without their compensation. He was not willing to do anything that would produce such a result. He preferred placing the Texas volunteers on a level with all other volunteers; and, therefore, he should vote for the reconsideration.

The debate was resumed by Mr. Woodward, who was entitled to the floor, and was continued by Messrs Lincoln McLane, and Marvin each of whom were frequently interrupted in their remarks for explanations. At the heretofore appointed hour, the fall of the chairman's hammer announced the close of the debate.

Washington, May 24, 1848.

MY DEAR WIFE:

Enclosed is the draft as I promised you in my letter of Sunday. It is drawn in favor of your father, and I doubt not, he will give you the money for it at once. I write this letter in the post-office, surrounded by men and noise, which, together with the fact that there is nothing new makes me write so short a letter.

Affectionately,

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, June 12, 1848—

DEAR WILLIAM:

On my return from Philadelphia, where I had been attending the nomination of "Old Rough"—I found your letter in a mass of others, which had accumulated in my absence. By many, and often, it had been said they would not abide the nomination of Taylor; but since the deed has been done, they are fast falling in, and in my opinion we shall have a most overwhelming, glorious, triumph—One unmistakable sign is, that all the odds and ends are with us—Barnburners, Native Americans, Tyler men disappointed office seeking locofocos, and the Lord knows what—This is important, if in nothing else, in showing which way the wind blows—Some of the sanguine men here, set down all the states as certain for Taylor, but Illinois, and it as doubtful—Can not something be done, even in Illinois? Taylor's nomination takes the locos on the blind side—It turns the war thunder against them—The war is now to them, the gallows of Haman, which they built for us, and on which they are doomed to be hanged themselves—

Excuse this short letter— I have so many to write, that I can not devote much time to any one.

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

Not to be published—*Herndon*
Washington, June 12, 1848.

MY DEAR WIFE:

On my return from Philadelphia yesterday, where in my anxiety I have been led to attend the Whig Convention I found your last

letter. I was so tired and sleepy, having ridden all night, that I could not answer it till to-day; and now I have to do so in the H. R. The leading matter in your letter is your wish to return to this side of the Mountains— Will you be a *good girl* in all things, if I consent? Then come along, and that as *soon* as possible. Having got the idea in my head, I shall be impatient till I see you. You will not have money enough to bring you, but I presume your uncle will supply you and I will refund him here. By the way you do not mention whether you have received the fifty dollars I sent you. I do not much fear but that you got it; because the want of it would have induced you say something in relation to it. If your uncle is already at Lexington, you might induce him to start in earlier than the first of July; he could stay in Kentucky longer on his return, and so make up for lost time. Since I began this letter, the H. R. has passed a resolution for adjourning on the 17th July, which probably will pass the Senate. I hope this letter will not be disagreeable to you; which, together with the circumstances under which I write, I hope will excuse me for not writing a longer one. Come on just as soon as you can— I want to see you, and our dear *dear* boys very much. Every body here wants to see our dear Bobby.

Affectionately,

A. LINCOLN.

Mr. Lincoln, remarking that he believed *he* was still a member, moved the previous question.

Washington, July 14, 1848, to "Friend Hogan" (John Hogan, M. C. from Illinois and Missouri).

" . . . *Taylorism seems to be going right, for which, I am very glad. Keep the ball rolling. Yours as ever,*

A. LINCOLN.

SUBJECT: POST ROUTES

Mr. Lincoln from the same committee, reported a bill to establish certain post routes. Mr. Lincoln explained that this was precisely the same bill that had heretofore been reported by the Committee on the Postoffice and Post Roads establishing certain post routes, with the exception of a proviso that had been added

at the end, in these words: "Provided, That nothing in this act contained shall be so construed as to express any opinion as to the true boundary of any state or territory named therein."

SUBJECT: NEW MEXICO AND CALIFORNIA

Mr. Lincoln next obtained the floor, among many competitors, but he said he apprehended that there was a disposition on the part of the House that the discussion at this time, on this question, should not be longer protracted; he would announce to the House that he desired to make a general speech, and he further announced that if there was a general disposition to take the question now pending, he would give way for that purpose. ("No, no; go on.")

Mr. Lincoln would say, that he hoped he would have the indulgence of the House, while he expressed his views at some future time; and now, for the accommodation of gentlemen, he would yield the floor.

Mr. Lincoln, who was entitled to the floor from last evening, addressed the committee. Without wasting the time of the committee with any preliminary remarks, he would proceed at once, he said, to the consideration of the subject he proposed to discuss.

Some of the gentlemen on the other side of the House, if not all of them, who had addressed the committee within the last few days, had, if he had understood them correctly, spoken somewhat complainingly of the vote which was given some week or ten days since in this House, by which it was declared that the present war with Mexico was "unnecessarily and unconstitutionally commenced by the President of the United States." He agreed with them, if he understood them properly, so far as to say that such a vote ought not to have been given wantonly; that it was wrong, if so given; that no member ought to have given such a vote, unless he thought he was voting in accordance with the truth. He was one of those who had voted thus, and he proposed to present some of the reasons which actuated him in so doing.

When this war first commenced, he did not expect it would last so long as it had already done. It was then his opinion, that all those who, for the reason of not knowing enough, or of knowing too much, on the subject, as they understood it, could not

conscientiously approve the course of the President of the United States in relation to the commencement of the war, should, nevertheless, as good and patriotic citizens, remain silent upon that question until the war should have terminated. And, in accordance with that view, he had, up to the time he arrived in this city, at the commencement of this session, never expressed his opinion in relation to whether or not the war was justly commenced on the part of the President of the United States. He had tried to act upon that principle, believing he was doing right in so doing. He found that view had been taken by some with whom he agreed in political sentiment, and especially by Mr. Ex-President Van Buren.

He (Mr. L.) was inclined to think he would have adhered to that view even yet, were it not that the President himself and some of his friends would not permit those to be silent who wished to be so upon that question. The President himself, as was well known, in his messages, especially in his late annual message to Congress, attempted to argue every silent vote given in favor of supplies for the war into an approval of his conduct in the commencement of it, and of his mode of prosecuting the war. He would not refer to particular instances in relation to this point, with the single exception of this: take, for instance, the declaration in the late message, in which the President tells us, that when he announced to Congress that hostilities had commenced, Congress, by a vote approaching very nearly to unanimity, declared the war to exist by the act of Mexico; only two in the Senate and fourteen in the House, he says, dissenting. Now, what he wished to refer to was this: that the President here attempted to prove, that with this small exception, the members of the Senate and the House of Representatives were for backing him in the declaration that "war exists by the act of Mexico;" whereas the same journal which told him that only fourteen members of the House of Representatives voted against this declaration, when forced in as a preamble to the bill and coupled with supplies—that same journal told him that sixty-seven voted against it when disconnected with the question of supplies. So that the President came forward and attempted to prove, by telling what is the truth, what he could not prove if he told the whole truth; thus dealing unfairly with those who had silently

voted supplies, and compelling them, in justice to themselves, to speak out and prevent, if possible, this kind of misrepresentation.

But, in addition to this, one of his colleagues [Mr. Richardson] came into this House with a resolution in its terms expressly endorsing the justice of the President's conduct in the beginning of the war. So that he found himself here, if he was inclined to give the President his supplies, and say nothing about the original justice of the war—if he was inclined to go with him, to look ahead and not back, in a position that he could not do so. He should feel compelled to vote on this resolution in the negative. And as the President and his friends would not allow them to do as he wanted to do, and as Mr. Van Buren approved, he had set himself about examining what position was the right one on the justice of the war. He had never particularly examined this question before. He had refrained from so doing for the reason he had stated. When this question was suddenly sprung upon the House the other day, on the part of his own political friends, declaring the war to have been unnecessarily and unconstitutionally commenced on the part of the President, he did not then desire to vote upon the question. He preferred to know something more upon the subject. But he voted under the impression then on his mind; which impression was still on his mind, and which, possibly, could be removed. If it could be, and if it should be removed, he should take great pleasure in reversing his vote.

He would now attempt to show why it was that in the investigation he had made he arrived at the conclusion he had. It was some two or three weeks ago, when, it might be remembered, he introduced resolutions of inquiry. They followed a short time, some three or four days, after the movement of his colleague, [Mr. Richardson,] and they followed in consequence of it, and would not have been introduced if the gentleman's resolution had not. He had introduced those resolutions, those interrogatories, with the view of getting at the direct question, as he understood it, of the justice of the President's conduct in the commencement of this war. It was not for him to say that he certainly understood the true question correctly—he only acted for himself. The President, however, told us, in his first message, that hostilities were commenced, or blood was shed—American blood was shed

upon American soil. And of so much importance did the President deem the declaration that the place, the very spot where blood was first spilled was our own soil, that he followed it up, and repeated that declaration in almost the same language in every successive message, certainly in every annual message since. The President seemed to attach great importance to the assumed fact that the soil was our own where hostilities commenced. He (Mr. L.) agreed with him on the importance of it, if he understood the President. It was his opinion that that was the very point on which rightfully the President should be justified or condemned. The President felt, as doubtless every intelligent man felt, that ownership, title, was not itself a simple fact, it was rather a conclusion drawn from one or more single facts; and, feeling this, he seemed to be sensible that the bare statement that we owned the soil needed to be supported by the facts on which it rests. Accordingly, in his annual message in December, 1846, he came forward with a string of proof on that point. He (Mr. L.) proposed to examine that proof, and to show that it in no way attached to the question. First, he made an issue which was a false issue. After going on to state certain facts, he said:

"But there are those who, conceding all this to be true, assume the ground that the true western boundary of Texas is the Nueces instead of the Rio Grande; and that, therefore, in marching our army to the east bank of the latter river, we passed the Texan line, and invaded the territory of Mexico."

Now, he said, this was an issue ingeniously framed for the admission of improper testimony. If the President had desired to meet the exact point of issue, he would have said, the soil on which hostilities commenced, I declare to be ours. There are those who say it is not. Now for the proof. Did he make any such issue? Did he not, instead, make an issue of two affirmatives, and speak in one part of his message of one river, and in another part of the other river, leaving all the intermediate space to play upon? After stating the issue as he had described, the President went on then with his proof. He (Mr. L.) had analyzed and classified the various items, facts, and declarations, which made up the whole proof brought forward by the President of the correctness of his position.

The first item was, that the western boundary of Louisiana, as we purchased it of France, was the Rio Grande.

The next was, that the Republic of Texas always claimed the Rio Grande to be her western boundary. Then came a class of declarations, the amount of which was, that she had always—upon paper, in her constitution, by forming her congressional districts, in laying out her counties, collection districts, &c.—claimed it to be her western boundary. And then that a treaty was made by her with Santa Anna, in which Santa Anna recognized the Rio Grande as the western boundary of Texas.

Next came a declaration, or a class of declarations, that jurisdiction had been by Texas, or by the United States since Texas was admitted into the Union, exercised, not upon the eastern bank of the Rio Grande, but between the two rivers.

And, lastly, it was declared that the Congress of the United States understood, at the time Texas was admitted into the Union, that the boundary of Texas extended beyond the Nueces.

This was the whole testimony which Mr. Polk brought forward; and he told us it was a simple statement of facts, that clearly proved that in marching the army from the Nueces to the Rio Grande he did not invade the territory of Mexico. He proposed for a little while to examine this proof, item by item, for the purpose of showing that it was not the proof at all which was necessary to sustain the President in the position which he took.

First, as to the declaration that the Rio Grande was the western boundary of Louisiana, as purchased by France. All knew that that purchase was in 1803; and the President himself told us that by the treaty of 1819 we sold the land east of the Rio Grande—to the Sabine, he believed—to Spain. He wanted to make but a single remark upon this point. How the line that divided your land and mine still remains the dividing line after I have sold my land to you, was to him past all comprehension. And how a man, with the honest purpose of telling “the truth, and nothing but the truth,” could have ever thought of introducing such a piece of “proof,” was equally incomprehensible.

The next point was, the declaration that the Republic of Texas always claimed the Rio Grande as her western boundary. That was not true in point of fact. She did not “always” claim it.

She did claim it, but not always. The constitution by which she was admitted into the Union—which, being her last act as a Republic, might be said to be her “last will and testament,” “revoking all others”—made no such claim. But suppose it were true that she had always claimed it, had not Mexico always claimed that it was not so? If Texas had always claimed that the Rio Grande was her western boundary, had not Mexico always claimed directly the reverse? So that it was nothing but claim against claim, and there was nothing proved until you got behind the claims, and saw which stood upon the best foundation. And what he here said in reference to these claims of his was equally applicable to all the President said about Texas, under her republican constitution, having always claimed to the Rio Grande; and her laying out her congressional districts, towns, counties, &c., all stood on the same ground. You might just as well say I could get a valid title to your land by writing a deed and signing it, as to say that Texas could get the land of another by, at home, including within her boundary, upon paper, a certain piece of territory, when it was itself where she dare not go. The thing was preposterous!

Next came the declaration that Santa Anna, by his treaty with the Republic of Texas, recognized the Rio Grande as the western boundary of Texas. Now, he would just say, if anybody wanted to be amused by seeing a very little thing called by a very big name, let them turn to Niles's Register, volume 50, page 336, and they would see the thing that Mr. Polk called a treaty, and would find it to be a most extraordinary thing, too. It might be said he referred to a curious place for a treaty. He should have thought so, too, on the start; but he had tolerable proof that the President himself never saw it except there. It was not in the State Department; it was there he got track of it, from being on the track of the President. He believed, too, that during the first ten years of its life, it was never called a “treaty;” that until it became necessary to dignify it by the name of “treaty,” for the purpose of lending the President some support, it was never called a “treaty.” Santa Anna, in making it, did not assume to act as a magistrate, or as the authorized officer of the Republic, but only as commander-in-chief of her army. He did not recognize the independence of Texas; he did not stipulate for the

The Draft of '63

EXECUTIVE MANSION.

Washington, D. C. *July 9th*, 1863.

I, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, President of the United States of America, and Commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy thereof, having taken into consideration the number of volunteers and militia furnished by and from the several States, including the State of *New York*, and the period of service of said volunteers and militia since the commencement of the present rebellion, in order to equalize the numbers among the Districts of the said States, and having considered and allowed for the number already furnished as aforesaid, and the time of their service aforesaid, do hereby assign *Two Thousand Three Hundred and Eighty-Seven* as the first proportional part of the quota of troops to be furnished by the *14th* DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF *New York* under this, the first call made by me on the State of *New York*, under the act approved March 3, 1863, entitled "An Act for enrolling and calling out the National Forces, and for other purposes," and, in pursuance of the act aforesaid, I order that a draft be made on the said *14th* DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF *New York* for the number of men herein assigned to said District, and FIFTY PER CENT IN ADDITION.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this *ninth* day of *July*, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States, the eighty-eighth.

Abraham Lincoln

A New York Draft Order

termination of the war; he did not say anything, from beginning to end, about boundary. All he did say was to stipulate that the forces of Mexico should evacuate Texas, passing to the other side of the Rio Grande. And then by another article it was expressly stipulated that the Texan forces should not go within five leagues—it did not say of what; but the stipulation being made for the purpose of preventing a collision between the two armies, as a matter of course it meant five leagues from the Rio Grande. Now, it was most strange, if this thing was a treaty of boundary, that Texas should have expressly stipulated in it that her forces should not go within five leagues of it. Who ever heard of a nation entering into a treaty of boundary, and agreeing not to go within five leagues of the boundary agreed on? The fact was, it was nothing more or less than an article of agreement, and it was so called on its own face, entered into by Santa Anna, by which to get his liberty. He stipulated that he would not himself take up arms, nor encourage the Mexican people to do so, during the existing war, leaving it expressly understood that there was no termination of the war. Nobody supposed it was a treaty, because it was well known, as it has many times been stated, that Santa Anna, being a prisoner of war at the time, could not have made a treaty, if he had tried to do so. But he never intended to make—he never made—any such thing. There was no mark, no characteristic about it of a treaty at all.

He next came to notice the declaration of the President, that Texas before annexation, and the United States since annexation, had exercised jurisdiction over the country between the two rivers—the Nueces and the Rio Grande. This testimony was good as far as it went; but, according to the President's own admission, it did not go to the place where it was claimed to go. It possibly might go there, but it did not by fair implication; for he did not understand that exercising jurisdiction over territory between two rivers necessarily implied the exercise of jurisdiction over the whole territory between them. For instance, he himself exercised jurisdiction over land between the Wabash and the Mississippi rivers; but, so far from his exercising jurisdiction over the *whole* of the land between these two rivers, the lot which he owned was only one hundred and fifty feet deep, and fifty feet

wide. He knew, then, from actual experience, that it was *possible* [a laugh] to exercise jurisdiction over a piece of land between two rivers without owning the *whole country* between them. And when you come to examine this declaration, this was just the amount of it. The President did not say anything more.

He now came to examine the last of the President's "proofs," viz: that Congress, at the time they admitted Texas, understood the boundary of Texas to extend beyond the Nueces. He (Mr. L.) understood it so. There was no dispute between them, at least between the President and him, (Mr. L.,) as to the understanding that Texas extended beyond the Nueces. He agreed with the President that it did. But did the President say, did anybody say, that it extended clear to the Rio Grande? It might be said, it was true, that there were people who understood a man could not cross a river without going all the way to the next river. That was, at least, a possibility; and he understood it might be a probability, when it suited the purpose of the person, if there were not in this case a little matter, called truth, that forbid saying so.

Having now gone through with the examination of all this testimony—all the different classifications of it—he wished to remark, that if any man should show that immediately surrounding the place where hostilities commenced there was a peaceable Mexican settlement; that Mexicans had inhabited there for many years; that they had never submitted, either by force or by consent, to the authority of Texas or of the United States,—if any man should declare that to be true, there was nothing to any one message of the President of the United States that contradicted it; and he wished the House and the country particularly to remark the apparent carefulness upon the part of the President of the United States not to say yea or nay on that point. In courts of justice he had often seen, when men were arraigned and defended by able counsel, the counsel striving to befog the consideration of a point, working round in some way to divert attention from a point which they knew they dare not admit, and could not deny; and if he had ever seen such a case, here was the evidence of just such another. [A laugh.]

He now wished to state briefly what he understood to be the true rule for the purpose of determining what was the boundary

between Texas and Mexico. In the first place, the President said that that country belonged to France; we bought it; then we sold it to Spain; then Mexico revolutionized against Spain; and afterwards Texas revolutionized against Mexico, and became the owner of—something. What, and how much, he was about to state. She did not purchase it. If she got it in any way, she got it by revolution; one of the most sacred of rights—the right which he believed was yet to emancipate the world; the right of a people, if they have a government they do not like, to rise and shake it off. In the exercise of that right, the Texans shook off the Mexican yoke. But how far? Did the nation—did the people revolutionize by lines? Certainly not. They revolutionized exactly to the extent that they took part in it. When they rose up and shook off the old Government, so much of the country was theirs. And where were the people that did not rise? They remained with the old Government. It was this right of revolution, and it could not be a perfect right if it could not be exercised until every individual inhabitant was in favor of it. It would be no right. Minorities must submit to majorities.

Just such was the case with the Tories in the American Revolution. They were obliged to submit to the majority—the great body of the people, who rose and put them down by force. Now, he said, when the Texan people rose up and shook off the Mexican Government, they put down the minority among them who were not disposed to go with them and became owners of the soil themselves; the country belonged to Texas. But if there were an isolated portion of people who took no part in the movement, over whom the revolutionary party, by force or otherwise, had never been able to extend their power, then that people and the country they occupied were not included within the boundaries of the territory revolutionized. No rule could be more just, more republican, more in conformity with natural right. Why, under the rule that one portion of the people have the right to rise and shake off their Government, another portion have precisely the same right to remain as they were. When they rise up, they have a right to put down the minority. But if there were on the Rio Grande a portion of people who had never been disturbed by them—at least successfully—who had never consented to go, it seemed to him in violation of common sense to

claim that the people who chose to remain there, and who did remain there notwithstanding all the force that could be brought to bear upon them, belonged to the revolutionary government.

That was his understanding of this subject, and he believed it was the right understanding. He had proposed by the resolution he had offered to get the President of the United States to talk to the House on this point, which he seemed exceedingly anxious to avoid. Other people talked about it; he would like to have the President do so; and he had framed some interrogatories for this purpose. He (Mr. L.) now declared here, that if by party zeal, if by listening to representations which were erroneous, he had been induced to suppose what was not true in relation to this Mexican settlement east of the Rio Grande; if the President would come forward frankly and give them facts, not arguments, remembering that he sits where Washington sat, and answering as Washington would have answered—remembering that a nation should not be evaded, that the Almighty would not be—and would show that he sent the army among a people acknowledging allegiance to us on the eastern bank of the Rio Grande,—if he would show this by facts, he (Mr. L.) would be most happy to reverse his vote. He would go the other way—would go with him.

But if he could not, or would not; if on any pretence or no pretence he refused to do it, he (Mr. L.) should then be fully convinced, of what he more than suspected, that the President was deeply conscious of being in the wrong in this matter; that he felt the blood of this war, like the blood of Abel, was crying from the ground against him; that originally he must have had some strong motive—what it was he would not now stop to inquire—for involving the two countries in war; that, having that motive, he had trusted to avoid the scrutiny of his own conduct by directing the attention of the nation, by fixing the public eye upon military glory—that rainbow that rises in showers of blood—that serpent's eye that charms but to destroy; and thus calculating, had plunged into this war, until disappointed as to the ease by which Mexico could be subdued, he found himself at last he knew not where.

Whoever carefully examined this last message, would find that, like one in the half insane excitement of a fevered dream, in one place the President said that Mexico has nothing but land; in

another part, he expects to support the army by military contributions. And again, that the war is waged for the good of Mexico, to prevent foreign interference; that it is for the honor of the nation, and particularly for security for the future. In another place, that, with the exception of territorial indemnity, there is no object for the war; and, after saying this, he proposes that we should take by act of Congress all he asked for indemnity last fall, and the whole province of California besides: take all, according to his own statement, that we are fighting for, and still to fight on! If that was really all he wanted, why did it not occur to him that when we had got it we should stop? He talked like an insane man. He did not propose to give Mexico any credit at all for the country we had already conquered; he proposed to take more than he asked last fall, and not give her any credit, but to fight on.

In another place, we are told that we must have indemnity for the expenses of the war. It was strange that it did not occur to the President that it would be a little difficult to get indemnity after the expenses had transcended in amount the whole value of her territory. She had nothing but land, the President told us, and, after we have got all that, where is the indemnity?

The President says, again, that the national independence of Mexico is to be maintained. How to be maintained, after we own all her territory? How are we to keep up the national independence, the separate existence of Mexico, after we have taken all her territory? And lest it should be thought by some that he was talking in a speculative and not a practical point, he would say that the President proposed, as appeared from looking at the map, that we should take almost one-half of the Mexican territory; that was, the unsettled half, which was certainly worth more than the settled half. In the unsettled part, we could establish land offices, sell the lands, and introduce an American population into the country. But when we came to take the other half, the land already belonged to individuals, and we could derive little benefit from it; for he believed it was not proposed to kill the Mexican population, to drive them out, to confiscate their lands and their property, or to make them slaves. How, then, could we derive any benefit from the densely-settled portion? And if we were already entitled to the best half, how much longer

should we prosecute the war before we should be entitled to the worst half? The question, then, was not a speculative, but a practical question, pressing close upon us; and yet the President seemed never to have thought of it at all!

Then, again, in relation to the mode of prosecuting the war, or of securing peace, the message declared that we were to prosecute it more vigorously, until at last it dropped down in a sort of desponding tone, and told us that the continued successes of our arms may fail to secure a satisfactory peace, and perhaps we may wheedle the Mexican people to throw off their rulers and adopt our Government. And then it concludes that we may fail in this, and goes back to the old thing, and recommends a more vigorous prosecution of the war, which it was just admitted might fail to secure the end desired.

In all this, the President showed himself dissatisfied with the conclusions he had assumed. He took up one suggestion, and tried to argue us into it, but argued himself out of it; he then took up another, and went through the same process, and returned to the first; showing himself dissatisfied with all, and appearing like a man on a hot shovel, finding no place on which he could settle down. [Laughter.]

Again, in relation to the termination of the war, the President nowhere, if he had read the message right, intimated any opinion as to when this war would come to an end. It did not seem to have occurred to him to say anything about that. Now, if he remembered right, General Scott was thrown into disfavor, if not into disgrace, by the same Administration for intimating, when the war commenced, that peace could not be conquered in less than four or five months. It was now more than twenty months before this last message was written; it had been prosecuted most vigorously; officers and men had done all that it was thought men could do, and hundreds of things never before dreamt of; and the President, who was so impatient at a veteran officer for having expressed the opinion that it would take at least four or five months, came to Congress with a long and elaborate message, in which he did not even express an imaginary conception of his own as to when it would terminate! How was this? Was it not true, as he had said before, that Mr. Polk was lost—that he did not know where he was—that he did not know what to do? He

was not satisfied with any position. He forgot to take up the points that arose most obviously out of what he did say. All this went to show that he was most completely bewildered, and he (Mr. L.) should be most happy to be assured that there was not something about his conscience that was more harassing than all his mental perplexities.

Passage generally omitted from one of Lincoln's speeches. The reason for the omission is quite obvious.

But the gentleman from Georgia further says, we have deserted all our principles, and taken shelter under Gen. Taylor's military coat-tail; and he seems to think this is exceedingly degrading. Well, as his faith is, so be it unto him. But can he remember no other military coat-tail, under which a certain other party have been sheltering for near a quarter of a century? Has he no acquaintance with the ample military coat-tail of Gen. Jackson? Does he not know that his own party have run the last five Presidential races under that coat-tail? and that they are now running the sixth under the same cover? Yes, sir, that coat-tail was used, not only for Gen. Jackson himself, but has been clung to with the grip of death by every Democratic candidate since. You have never ventured, and dare not now venture, from under it. Your campaign papers have constantly been "Old Hickories," with rude likenesses of the old general upon them; hickory poles and hickory brooms your never-ending emblems. Mr. Polk himself was "Young Hickory," "Little Hickory," or something so; and even now your campaign paper here is proclaiming that Cass and Butler are of the "Hickory stripe." No, sir, you dare not give it up. Like a horde of hungry ticks, you have stuck to the tail of the Hermitage lion to the end of his life; and you are still sticking to it, and drawing a loathsome sustenance from it, after he is dead. A fellow once advertised that he had made a discovery by which he could make a new man out of an old one, and have enough of the stuff left to make a little yellow dog. Just such a discovery has Gen. Jackson's popularity been to you. You not only twice made President of him out of it, but you have enough of the stuff left to make Presidents of several comparatively small men since; and it is your chief reliance now to make still another.

Mr. Speaker, old horses and military coat-tails, or tails of any sort, are not figures of speech such as I would be the first to introduce into discussions here; but, as the gentleman from Georgia has thought fit to introduce them, he and you are welcome to all you have made, or can make, by them. If you have any more old horses, trot them out; any more tails, just cock them, and come at us.

I repeat, I would not introduce this mode of discussion here; but I wish gentlemen on the other side to understand, that the use of degrading figures is a game at which they may find themselves unable to take all the winnings. ["We give it up."] Ay, you give it up, and well you may; but for a very different reason from that which you would have us understand. The point—the power to hurt—of all figures, consists in the *truthfulness* of their application; and, understanding this, you may well give it up. They are weapons which hit you, but miss us.

But, in my hurry, I was very near closing on this subject of military tails before I was done with it. There is one entire article of the sort I have not discussed yet; I mean the military tail you Democrats are now engaged in dovetailing on to the great Michigander. Yes, sir, all his biographers (and they are legion) have him in hand, tying him to a military tail, like so many mischievous boys tying a dog to a bladder of beans. True, the material is very limited, but they are at it might and main. He *invaded* Canada without resistance, and he *outvaded* it without pursuit. As he did both under orders, I suppose there was, to him, neither credit nor discredit; but they are made to constitute a large part of the tail. He was not at Hull's surrender, but he was close by; he was volunteer aid to Gen. Harrison on the day of the battle of the Thames; and, as you said in 1840 Harrison was picking whortleberries two miles off while the battle was fought, I suppose it is a just conclusion, with you, to say Cass was aiding Harrison to pick whortleberries. This is about all, except the mooted question of the broken sword. Some authors say he broke it; some say he threw it away; and some others, who ought to know, say nothing about it. Perhaps it would be a fair historical compromise to say, if he did not break it, he did not do anything else with it.

By the way, Mr. Speaker, did you know I am a military hero? Yes, sir: in the days of the Black-Hawk War, I fought, bled, and came away. Speaking of Gen. Cass's career reminds me of my own. I was not at Stillman's defeat, but I was about as near it as Cass was to Hull's surrender; and, like him, I saw the place very soon afterwards. It is quite certain I did not break my sword, for I had none to break; but I bent my musket pretty badly on one occasion. If Cass broke his sword, the idea is, he broke it in desperation: I bent the musket by accident. If Gen. Cass went in advance of me picking whortleberries, I guess I surpassed him in charges upon the wild onions. If he saw any live fighting Indians, it was more than I did, but I had a good many bloody struggles with the mosquitoes; and, although I never fainted from loss of blood, I can truly say I was often very hungry.

Mr. Speaker, if ever I should conclude to doff whatever our Democratic friends may suppose there is of black-cockade Federalism about me, and, thereupon, they shall take me up as their candidate for the Presidency, I protest that they shall not make fun of me, as they have of Gen. Cass, by attempting to write me into a military hero.

Washington, 1848.

SIR

The Whig Members of Congress have, as heretofore, appointed an "Executive Committee" to watch over the interests of the Whig party in the present canvass. In the discharge of their duties, the Committee have already made arrangements to supply every section of the country with useful information, such as is usually contained in political pamphlets and Congressional speeches.

It is highly important, especially as the labors of the Committee will continue without interruption from this time until the election in November, that full lists of names, to whom their publications may be sent, should be furnished them as soon as practicable. You cannot fail to estimate the excellent results which have been and may be produced by this plan of operation, nor yet to understand that its efficiency will be controlled, in a great

degree, by the promptitude with which their Whig friends second the efforts of those entrusted with its execution. It is believed that all that is necessary to secure the election of Gen. Taylor, is for correct information to reach the mass of the people.

I therefore earnestly request that you will lose no time in forwarding lists for your neighborhood to Hon. Wm. B. Preston, Hon. Truman Smith, Hon. T. Butler King, or Hon. C. B. Smith, at Washington City, D. C. I would suggest that the names of the Whigs be distinguished from those of the more moderate of our opponents, and that the most active and influential Whigs be also designated from the general number. The names of individuals, and their Post Office and County, should also be distinctly written.

Your immediate attention to this subject will be gratifying to the Committee, who will be glad to hear from you, occasionally, the condition of the Whig cause in your immediate section. Should you write, direct your letters to the gentlemen, or either of them, whose names have been given you.

I have the honor to be, with high respect, yours, &c.,

A. LINCOLN.

P.S. Your name has been given us by Mr. Griffith of Va.

Respfy yrs &c.

Washington, Jan. 5, 1849.

DEAR WILLIAM

Your two letters were received last night— I have a great many letters to write, and so can not write very long ones— There must be some mistake about Walter Davis saying I promised him the Post-Office; I did not so promise him— I did tell him, that if the distribution of the offices should fall into my hands, he should have *something*; and if I shall be convinced he has said any more than this, I shall be disappointed. I said this much to him, because, as I understand, he is of *good character*, is one of the *young men*, is of the *mechanics*, and always *faithful*, and never *troublesome Whig*, and is *poor*, with the support of a widow mother thrown almost exclusively on him by the death of his brother— If these are wrong reasons, then I have been wrong;

but I have certainly not been selfish in it; because in my greatest need of friends he was against me and for Baker—

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

P.S. Let the above be confidential
To W. H. Herndon

SUBJECT: SLAVE TRADE IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. Lincoln appealed to his colleague (Mr. Wentworth) to withdraw his motion, to enable him to read a proposition which he intended to submit, if the vote should be reconsidered.

Mr. Wentworth again withdrew his motion for that purpose.

Mr. Lincoln said that by the courtesy of his colleague, he would say that if the vote on the resolution was reconsidered, he should make an effort to introduce an amendment which he should now read. Mr. Lincoln then said, that he was authorized to say, that of about fifteen of the leading citizens of the District of Columbia to which this proposition had been submitted, there was not one but who approved of the adoption of such a proposition. He did not wish to be misunderstood. He did not know whether or not they would vote for this bill on the first Monday of April; but he repeated, that out of fifteen persons to whom it had been submitted, he had authority to say that everyone of them desired that some proposition like this should pass.

Washington, Jan: 15 1849.

DEAR BENNETT:

Your letter of the 2nd was received last night. I do not know yet what places there may be to dispose of in California, nor what share I may be allowed in disposing of them when the time comes; but I shall especially remember you, and do something for you if I can—

Washington, Jany. 15, 1849.

DEAR SIR:

Your letter of the 2nd was received last night. I went this morning to the folding room, and made enquiry for the docu-

ments you desire. They told me (what I had forgot) that our House has ordered the printing of 10,000 copies of Emory's and Albert's reports together, and that 8 copies for each member will be ready in about two weeks. The first lot I receive, I will provide you and Mr. Harkness out of. I was very glad to receive your letter, and shall be pleased at any time to have another. We have the news here, that Shields was *nominated* for the Senate, and from which we infer that he was elected, as a matter of course. How do you suppose this, as a fruit of the glorious Mexican war, tastes to Breese, McClernand *et al*? Do you suppose they are in a mood of *blessing* the war about now?

Write me again.

Yours as ever

To James Berdan

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, Jan. 19, 1849.

DEAR DOCTOR:

Your letter from Chicago, recommending Wm. M. Black for Register of the Land Office at Vandalia, is received— Two others, both good men, have applied for the same office before— I have made no pledge; but if the matter falls into my hands, I shall, when the time comes, try to do right, in view of all the lights then before me— I do not feel authorized to advise any one of the applicants what course to pursue.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, Feb. 6, 1849.

WM. A. CRAFTS, Esq

Dear Sir.

Yours of the 31st of Jany. was received two or three days since— I know Mr. Asabel Thayer, and have the impression that he is not able to pay any thing— Besides his brother Martin Thayer, of Philadelphia, he has a brother, Joseph Thayer, at Springfield, Illinois, who is pecuniarily in good circumstances— Still, my impression of Asabel is as I have stated; but, lest I be mistaken, I send your letter to a friend in Springfield, with the request that he will ascertain the material facts and write you.

Your Obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, Feb: 20. 1849.

DEAR SPEED:

Your letter of the 13th was received yesterday— I showed it to Baker— I did this because he knew I had written you, and was expecting an answer; and he still enquired what I had received; so that I could not well keep it a secret— Besides this, I knew the contents of the letter would not affect him as you seemed to think it would— He knows he did not make a favorable impression while in Congress, and he and I had talked it over frequently— He tells me to write you that he has too much self-esteem to be put out of humor with himself by the opinion of any man who does not know him better than Mr. Crittenden does; and that he thinks you ought to have known it. The letter will not affect him the least in regard to either Mr. Crittenden or you— He understands you to have acted the part of a discreet friend; and he intends to make Mr. Crittenden think better of him hereafter. I am flattered to learn that Mr. Crittenden has any recollection of me which is not unfavorable; and for the manifestation of your kindness towards me, I sincerely thank you. Still there is nothing about me which would authorize me to think of a first class office; and a second class one would not compensate me for being smiled at by others who want it for themselves— I believe that, so far as the Whigs in Congress, are concerned, I could have the Genl. Land Office almost by common consent; but then Swett, and Dr: Morrison, and Browning, and Cyrus Edwards all want it. And what is more, while I think I could easily take it myself, I fear I shall have trouble to get it for any other man in Illinois— The reason is, that McGarghey, an Indiana ex-member of Congress is here after it; and being personally known, he will be hard to beat by any one who is not—

Baker showed me your letter, in which you make a passing allusion to the Louisville Post-Office— I have told Garnett Duncan I am for you. I like to open a letter of yours, and I therefore hope you will write me again on the receipt of this—

Give my love, to Mrs. Speed—

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

P.S. I have not read the Frankfort papers this winter; and consequently do not know whether you have made a speech— If you have, and it has been printed send me a copy— A. L.

Washington, March 9, 1849.

THOMAS EWING, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

We recommend that Matthew Gillespie be appointed to fill the Land office now, or soon to be, vacant at Edwardsville, Illinois.

Your Obt Servts

A. LINCOLN

E. D. BAKER.

To the Commissioner of Patents.

The Petition of Abraham Lincoln, of Springfield in the county of Sangamon & State of Illinois Respectfully represents:

That your petitioner has invented a new and improved manner of combining adjustable buoyant chambers with steam boats or other vessels which has not, as he verily believes been heretofore used or known, and that he is desirous that Letters Patent of the United States may be granted to him therefor, securing to him and to his legal representatives, the exclusive right of making and using, and of vending to others the privilege to make or use, the same, agreeably to the provisions of the Acts of Congress in that case made and provided, he having paid thirty dollars into the Treasury of the United States, and complied with other provisions of the said Acts.

And he hereby authorises and empowers his Agent and Attorney, Z. C. Robbins, to alter or modify the within specification and claim as he may deem expedient, and to receive his patent; and also to receive back any moneys which he may be entitled to withdraw, and to receipt for the same.

A. LINCOLN.

COUNTY OF WASHINGTON }
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA } ss.

On this 10th day of March 1849 before the subscriber, a Jus Peace in and for the said county personally appeared the within named Abraham Lincoln and made solemn oath according to law, that he believes himself to be the original and first inventor of the within described improved manner of combining buoyant chambers with steam boats or other vessels and that he does not know or believe that the same has been before used or known; and that he is a citizen of the United States.

I. L. SMITH, JR.

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
SANGAMON COUNTY } ss.

Joseph Nelson, who is about to bring an action of Replevin against John Busher and Elizabeth Nelson, for the recovery of one Bedstead, one table, one half dozen chairs, one half dozen of cups and saucers, one half dozen plates, one half dozen knives and forks, one half dozen table-spoons, one half dozen tea-spoons, one pot, one bake kettle, One skillet— One stew-kettle, two quilts—one wood saw, one chest, and one package addressed to said Joseph Nelson, taken from the Post-Office, being first duly sworn, states on oath that he is now lawfully entitled to the possession of the property above described, that the possession of the same is unlawfully detained from him by the said John Busher and Elizabeth Nelson and that said property has not been taken for any tax, assessment or fine, levied by virtue of any law of this state, nor seized under any execution or attachment against the goods and chattels of said Joseph Nelson, liable to execution or attachment—

Subscribed and Sworn to before
me this 13th day of April 1849
B. TALBOTT Clerk.

his
JOSEPH X NELSON
mark

Springfield, Ill., April 20, 1849.

HON. W. B. PRESTON:

Dear Sir:

No member of the Cabinet knows so well as yourself the great anxiety I felt for General Taylor's election, and consequently none could so well appreciate my anxiety for the success of his administration— Therefore I address you— It is seen here that the government advertising, or a great part of it, is given to the Democratic papers— This gives offense to the Whig papers; and, if persisted in, will leave the administration without any newspaper support whatever. It causes, or will cause, the Whig editors to fall off, while the Democratic ones will not be brought in by it— I suppose General Taylor, because both of his declarations and his inclination, will not go the doctrine of removals very strongly; and hence the greater reason, when an office or a job is not already in Democratic hands, that it should be given

to a Whig— Even at this, full half the government patronage will still be in the hands of our opponents at the end of four years ; and if still less than this is done for our friends, I think they will have just cause to complain, and I verily believe the administration can not be sustained— The enclosed paragraph is from the leading Whig paper in the State— I think it is injudicious, and should not have appeared; still there is no keeping men silent when they feel they are wronged by their friends— As the subject of this paragraph pertains to the War Department, I would have written Mr. Crawford, but that it might have appeared obtrusive, I having no personal acquaintance with him— I am sure you will not be offended.

Your obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., April 26, 1849.

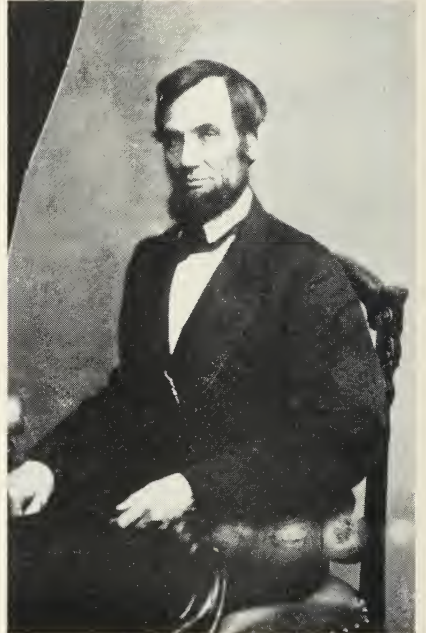
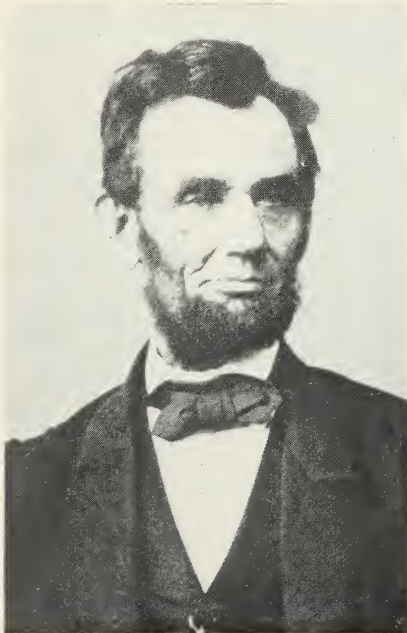
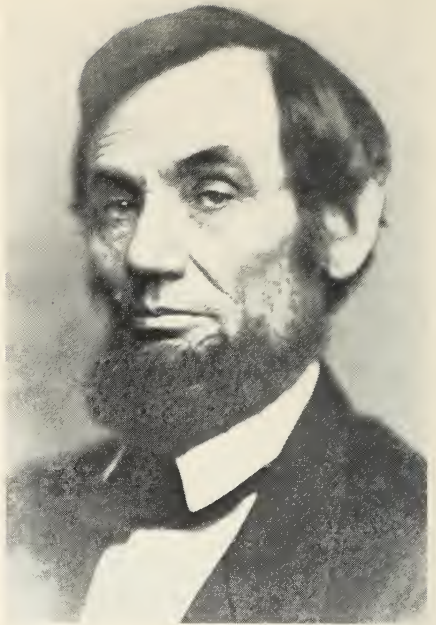
HON. SECRETARY OF HOME DEPARTMENT.

Dear Sir:

Some time since I recommended to your Department the appointment of Turner R. King and Walter Davis, to the Land Offices in this place. Several persons here, who desired these offices themselves, are finding great fault with the recommendations ; and I learned this morning that charges against King have been, or are to be, forwarded to your Department. I write this to request that, if in this, or any other case, charges shall be sent against persons I have recommended, you will suspend action, and notify me. I will take pains to avoid imposing any unworthy man on the Department. Mr. King resides in the Land district, but sixty miles distant from me ; and I recommend him to you, on the recommendation of his neighbors to me. I know him personally, and think him a good man ; still my acquaintance with him is not intimate enough to warrant me in totally disregarding a charge against him— Accordingly I am making particular enquiry in the matter ; and the Department shall know the result. I am not the less anxious in this matter because of knowing the principal object of the fault-finders, to be to stab me.

Your obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.



(From the Collection of Frederick Hill Meserve)

Springfield, Ill., May 16, 1849.

HON W. B. PRESTON.

Dear Sir: It is a delicate matter to oppose the wishes of a friend; and consequently I address you on the subject I now do, with no little hesitation. Last night I received letters assuring me it was not improbable that Justin Butterfield of Chicago, Ill., would be appointed Commissioner of the General Land Office. It was to avert this very thing that I call on you at your rooms one Sunday evening shortly after you were installed and besought you that, so far as in your power, no man from Illinois should be appointed to any high office, without my being at least heard on the question. You were kind enough to say you thought my request a reasonable one. Mr. Butterfield is my friend, is well qualified and, I suppose, would be faithful to the office. So far, good. But now for the objections. In 1840 we fought a fierce and laborious battle in Illinois, many of us spending almost the entire year in the contest. The general victory came, and with it, the appointment of a set of drones, including this same Butterfield, who never spent a dollar or lifted a finger in the fight. The place he got was that of District Attorney. The defection of Tyler came, and then B. played off and on and kept the office till after Polk's election. Again, Winter and Spring before the last, when you and I were almost sweating blood to have General Taylor nominated, this same man was ridiculing the idea, and going for Mr. Clay; and when General T. was nominated, if he went out of the city of Chicago to aid in his election, it is more than I ever heard, or believe. Yet, when the election is secured, by other men's labor, and even against his effort, why, he is the first man on hand for the best office that our State lays any claim to. Shall this thing be? Our Whigs will throw down their arms and fight no more, if the fruit of their labor is thus disposed of. If there is one man in this State who desires B.'s appointment to anything, I declare I have not heard of him. What influence operates (sic) for him, I cannot conceive. Your position makes it a matter of peculiar interest to you, that the administration shall be successful; and be assured, nothing can more endanger it than making appointments through old-hawker foreign influences, which offend, rather than gratify, the people immediately interested in the offices.

Can you not find time to write me, even half as long a letter as this? I shall be much gratified if you will.

Your Obedient Servant,

A. LINCOLN.

(Confidential)

Springfield, Ill., May 25, 1849.

COL. R. W. THOMPSON,
Terre Haute, Indiana.

Dear Sir:—

I am about to ask a favor of you, and one which I hope will not cost you much. I understand the General Land Office is about to be given to Illinois; and that Mr. Ewing desires Justin Butterfield of Chicago to be the man. I will not trouble you with particulars, but will assure you that the appointment of Mr. Butterfield will be an egregious political blunder. I believe it will gratify no single Whig in the state, except it be Mr. B. himself.

Now the favor I wish of you is, that you will write General Taylor at once, saying that in your opinion, either I, OR THE MAN I RECOMMEND, should be appointed to that office, if anyone from Illinois shall be. I restrict my request to Illinois, because I think it probable you have already recommended someone, probably from your own state, and I do not wish to interfere with that.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, June 3, 1849.

DR. J. B. HERRICK,

Dear Sir:

It is now certain that either Mr. Butterfield or I will be Commissioner of the General Land Office— If you are willing to give me the preference, please write me to that effect, at Washington, whither I am going. There is not a moment of time to be lost.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

June 4, 1849.

DEAR SIR:

Would you not as soon I should have the Genl. Land Office as any other Illinoisian? If you would write me to that effect at Washington where I shall be soon— No time to lose.

Yours in haste

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield Ill. June 5, '49.

HON. WILLIAM NELSON,

Dear Sir:

Would you not as soon I should have the Genl. Land Office as any other Illinoisian? If you would write me to that effect at Washington where I shall be soon— No time to lose.

Yours in haste

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, June 24, 1849.

HON. SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

Dear Sir:

I understand my personal friend and fellow Illinoisian, A. F. Patrick, has been removed from a Clerkship in your Department, on some charge implicating his capacity or business habits as a clerk— In such an implication I suspect injustice has been done him, not by you, but by those on whose information you acted— If this be so, you can ascertain it; and I shall be much obliged if you will wipe the injurious stigma from him— This is one thing; another is that if not inconsistent, I much wish he could have some temporary employment till about the meeting of Congress— When I say “if not inconsistent” I mean that I wish you to be consistent in all things; and that if obliging Mr. Patrick, democrat as he is, in this matter of temporary employment, would at all interfere with your consistency, I wish you not to do it—

Your Obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. July 4, 1849.

HON. SECRETARY OF STATE

Dear Sir,

I understand the name of our excellent friend Hon. R. W. Thompson, of Indiana, is before you for some diplomatic appointment— It needs no one to tell you who he is, and I wish to say, as matter of substance, and not of form merely, that I sincerely desire he may be successful—

Your Obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

P.S. This letter is unsolicited by Mr. Thompson, and wholly voluntary on my part.

A. L.

Springfield, Sept. 14, 1849.

DR. WILLIAM FITHIAN, Danville, Ill.

Dear Doctor: Your letter of the 9th was received a day or two ago. The notes and mortgages you enclosed me were duly received. I also got the original Blanchard mortgage from Antrim Campbell, with whom Blanchard had left it for you. I got a decree of foreclosure on the whole; but owing to there being no redemption on the sale to be under the Blanchard mortgage, the court allowed Mobley till the first of March to pay the money, before advertising for sale. Stuart was empowered by Mobley to appear for him, and I had to take such decree as he would consent to, or none at all. I cast the matter about in my mind and concluded that as I could not get a decree now would put the accrued interest at interest, and thereby more than match the fact of throwing the Blanchard debt back from 12 to 6 per cent., it was better to do it. This is the present state of the case.

I can well enough understand and appreciate your suggestions about the Land Office at Danville; but in my present condition, I can do nothing.

Yours, as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Oct. 14, 1849.

DEAR ISAAC:

I have but a moment to say your letter is received; and that when a Petition comes to me in relation to your Post-Master, it

shall be attended to at once— Give my respects to your father and mother, and believe me ever,

Your friend

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Dec. 15, 1849.

G. W. RIVES, Esq.,

Dear Sir:—On my return from Kentucky I found your letter of the 7th of November, and have delayed answering it till now, for the reason I now briefly state. From the beginning of your acquaintance I had felt the greatest kindness for you, and had supposed it was reciprocated on your part. Last Summer, under circumstances which I mentioned to you, I was painfully constrained to withhold a recommendation which you desired, and shortly afterwards I learned in such a way as to believe it, that you were indulging in open abuse of me. Of course, my feelings were wounded. On receiving your last letter, the question occurred whether you were attempting to use me at the same you would injure me, or whether you might not have been misrepresented to me. If the former, I ought not to answer you; if the latter I ought, and so I have remained in suspense. I now enclose you a letter which you may use if you think fit.

Yours, etc.,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Feb: 15. 1850.

MR. JOHN TILSON

Dear Sir:

A Mrs. Stout, formerly a Miss Huldah Briggs, of Vandalia, and who says she knows you, has become a near and favorite neighbor of ours. She thinks that some relatives of hers in Bond county have not done exactly right with her in relation to the estates of her grand-father & grand-mother, and that you have some knowledge on the subject.

The out-line of her narrative is, that her father, Charles Briggs died in Mass. in 1822 or thereabouts; that her grand-father, Richard Briggs, died at Boston about 1833, leaving some property; that her grand-mother removed to Bond county, Ills, bringing her husbands means with her, and acquiring some herself by

means of a pension, & divided some \$5000 out to her five *living* children, giving nothing to Mrs. Stout, or to the children of another deceased child. In 1842 her grand-mother also died, leaving some property, as Mrs. Stout thinks, but of which she still got nothing.

If you can, please answer me these questions. Did her grand-father make a Will? & if so what was the substance of it? Did her grand-mother bring means of her grand-father to this country? & if so what went with it? Did her grand-mother make a Will? & if so, what was the substance of it?

Has there been an administration on either estate.

Any thing further which you may know. I shall be much obliged if you will do this.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 20, 1850

TO HON. SECRETARY OF WAR, WITH ADDRESS

Sir:—Capt. Koscialowski who will present you this letter is an applicant for an appointment of Major in the new Regiment proposed to be raised by Congress. I have already placed my name, among others, to a general recommendation of him for that appointment; but I now desire to say, a little more specifically, that I shall be much grateful if he shall be successful in his application. He is every way a gentleman, a great favorite with his acquaintances here, and as I understand, without any capacity for deciding myself, has a military education, fitting him peculiarly for the position he seeks.

Your obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Feb. 22, 1850.

MR. ABRAHAM BALE.

Dear Sir:

I understand Mr. Hickox will go, or send to Petersburg to-morrow, for the purpose of meeting you to settle the difficulty about the wheat. I sincerely hope you will settle it— I think you *can* if you *will*, for I have always found Mr. Hickox a fair man in his dealings— If you settle, I will charge nothing for what I have

done, and thank you to boot— By settling, you will more likely get your money sooner, and with much less trouble & expense.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Illinois, June 11, 1850.

MR. N. HAY:

I wish to build a front fence on a brick foundation at my house. I, therefore, shall be obliged, if you will, as soon as possible, deliver me brick of suitable quality and sufficient number to build such foundation; fifty feet long of proper width and depth under ground, and about two feet above ground.

Yours,

A. LINCOLN.

Chicago, Ill. July 24, 1850.

GENTLEMEN:—

Yours of the 22nd inviting me to deliver an address to the citizens of this city upon the life of Z. Taylor, deceased, late President of the United States, was duly received. The want of time for preparation will make the task, for me, a very difficult one to perform, in any degree satisfactory to others or to myself. Still I do not feel at liberty to decline the invitation; and therefore I will fix to-morrow as the time. The hour may be any you think proper, after 12 o'clock M.

Your ob't Serv't—

A. LINCOLN.

Messrs. L. C. Kercheval

B. S. Morris

Geo. W. Dole

John H. Kinzie

W. L. Newberry

Chicago, July 26, 1850.

GENTLEMEN:—

Your polite note of yesterday, requesting for publication a copy of the address on the life and public services of Gen. Taylor,

is received; and I comply with the request very cheerfully. Accompanying this I send you the original manuscript.

Your ob't serv't

A. LINCOLN.

Messrs. L. C. Kercheval
R. J. Hamilton

Springfield, Augt. 9, 1850.

JOHN ADDISON, Esq—

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 31st of July was received yesterday— The substance of the matter you speak of, in detail, has long been known to me; and I have supposed, if I *would*, I *could* make it entirely plain to the world. But my high regard for some of the members of the late Cabinet; my great devotion to Gen: Taylor personally; and, above all, my fidelity to the great Whig cause, have induced me to be silent, and this especially, as I have felt, and do feel, entirely independent of the government, and therefore above the power of it's persecution— I also have long suspected that you were being persecuted on account of this piece of villiany (sic), by, or for the benefit of the original villian (sic); and, I own, this fills me with indignation— A public expose, however, though it might confound the guilty, I fear might also injure some who are innocent; to some extent, disparage a good cause; reflect no credit upon me, and result in no advantage to you—

Mr. Bates I see declines a place in the Cabinet; so that it is not yet apparant (sic) how I can serve you, which I am anxious to do so soon as I shall perceive the way— Write me again—

One part of your letter induces me to say I would not now accept the Land Office, if it were offered to me—

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, August 17, 1850

MR. S. R. LOWRY.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 13th was received a day or two ago, and I now proceed to answer it— Your first question is "What is lacking to perfect a title on the part of the defendants?" Answer—

The defendants, so far as I know, do not claim to have any title, except a tax-title; and this the court has decided to be insufficient; and I know nothing the defendants *can* do to perfect this title—I do not know what you mean by “the conveyances sent by mail”—The deed purporting to be made some years ago, at St. Louis, by Page (the Patentee) to Ryan, we had at the trial, and still have—That deed, in the hands of these defendants, was sought to be used as evidence of what the lawyers call an outstanding title—that is, a title owned by neither plaintiff nor defendants—The trouble with this deed was, that the plaintiff proved it to be a forgery; and I see no way in which the defendants can ever succeed unless they can somehow prove that this deed is *not* a forgery—This is the whole story—The case can not be gained by *much* talking—

A new trial was allowed upon the payment of costs; and, until the costs are paid, the defendants are liable to be put out of possession at any moment the plaintiff may see fit to order out a writ; which, however, he has not yet done—The amount of the cost is \$25-82 cents, as the clerk informs me—

Yours &c

A. LINCOLN.

Received, Sept. 23, 1850, of J. A. Crain, ten Dollars in full, of my fee in the case of said Crain against Walton and others, except a contingent fee as per his written promise to me.

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Nov. 6, 1850.

DEAR ISAAC:

I have been absent on the circuit seven weeks, only getting home to the election; so that I could not answer your letter of the 16th of Oct. till now—I am for you; and have written to the Department, that if the recommendations from your own county place you on very nearly equal ground with the best of your competitors, I desire that you may be appointed—I send the letter directly to the Department, thinking it may be best not to lose the time of sending it to you first.

Your friend, as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, March 6, 1851.

HON. WM. MARTIN

Dear Sir:

Yours of March —— with it's enclosures, was received yesterday— I agree with the New York lawyer, that it is best not to amend the minutes— In my view, if there were no minutes—no entries in writing—of the calls, then we could prove by *parol* that the Directors required the payments, and procured the publication of notices of them in the papers— My difficulty was that the calls *being entered of record*, and that fact getting out in evidence, we could not proceed without producing the record— If I am right in this, it follows that if the records, when produced, are defective, the defects can be supplied by *parol*—

If any of my cases are brought trial at the ensuing term, I shall need the minutes of the Commissioners, together with the witness to identify them as you suggest— I shall also want the printers' certificate, and if not too inconvenient, a living witness also, to prove the publication for the calls— The reason I say *if*, is, that another of my victims, J. M. Burkhardt, has "caved in" and paid his instalments—still another, Joseph Klein, probably will; and the remaining one, James A. Benet, as I wrote you, is proposing terms— In addition to all this, I can not be ready unless the Secretary comes on with his books— If I find I shall need the proof from Alton I will write you again—

As to Benet, if the Board think they have the power, I rather think they would better accept his terms— Mr. Lyon thinks the change of the location of road makes a serious question as to the release of stock-holders, and Benet is the only one I have heard of who is disposed to make the question— I think, Mr. Lyon's opinion notwithstanding, that the change will not work a release; but still it is better to get along peaceably if possible— I have not time *now* to review your declaration as you desire, but I have no doubt it is right, or at least as nearly right as I could make it, before I get some rubbing by an adversary in court—

Your despach (sic) is just here— On the question of the competency of a Stockholder to testify in these suits I send you 4 Watts & Serg: 393— This book is not here, & I find a reference to it in the Septr. U. S. Dig: Vol. 2 page 976, Sec. 405—

I also send you 7 Dana 99— This case is full and plump; and

is, perhaps, the only reported case, exactly in point— There is no case against us— There are many deciding that a Stockholder is incompetent for the corporation; but they are all in cases where *strangers* & not *members* of the corporation, were suing or being sued—

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, March 28, 1851.

DEAR SMITH

On yesterday evening we argued and su(bmit)ted the Bank Certificate question. I learn that Da(vis) will probably not decide it for a week or (so) when he will send the decision down from (the) circuit. Logan entered his motion merely (for) satisfaction to the extent of the notes & certif(icates) received, taking no notice of the tender. (This) I suppose will test the question just a(s) well. He also thinks there may be a dif(fer)ence between notes and certificates; and therefore urged me, and I consented, that you should ascertain the exact separate am(ounts) of each, which you have received, and send it up, so that it can be got into the record. He also pressed me to agree that the certificates are in the form given in the (?) Sec: of the Act of 1843. I agreed to this, (on) condition that my agreement should go for nothing, if the fact is really otherwise. (So much) on all this.

One other little matter. I am short of (funds) and intended to ask Col. Dunlap for my (fee) in the case in the U. S. court, but he lef(t) (sooner) than I expected. He is in no default wi(th me) for he once mentioned the subject to me, a(nd I) passed it by. But I now need the money (and) I will take it as a favor if you will s(how) him this note & get him to send it to me. We never agreed on the amount; but I cl(aim) \$50. which I suppose neither he or you will think unreasonable.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, June 23, 1851.

HON. WM. MARTIN,

Dear Sir:

What points in our Rail Road cases were decided at the spring term of your Circuit Court? and how were they decided?

Will the Secretary, with his books, be on here at our fall term? or will we be driven to try to prove the ordering of the call, by depositions? Our next term of Court commences on the fourth Monday of August.

Please write me on receipt of this.

Truly yours,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, July 26, 1851.

HON. WM. MARTIN

Dear Sir:

I received yours of the 22nd yesterday. I went to the Telegraph office and found the despatch as you say, of Jan'y 25th It is in pencil, and the operator says he does not know whose handwriting it is; but that he does know it is not the writing of the operator who was here at that date. I took Mr. James L. Lamb to see it, who at first said it was not McCormack's nor his own writing; but that he thought he knew who wrote it and would enquire. Just now he has told me that the man he thought had written it, denies doing so, and that he, Lamb, now has no idea who did write it. He says it is a much better hand than McCormack himself can write. I do not see any clew to the handwriting. Can you not set it up in pleading so as to be relieved from proving its execution unless McCormack denies it under oath?

Springfield, Ills. July 4, 1851.

ANDREW McCALLAN

Dear Sir:

I have news from Ottawa that we *win* our Galatin & Salem County case— As the dutch Justice said, when he married folks "Now, vere ish my hundred tollars"

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, July 31, 1851.

HON. WM. MARTIN,

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 29th is received. The present operator here says, that the operator who was here on July 25 1851 is C. P. Rosser,

and that he has no knowledge of his present whereabouts, that previous to being here, he had been in the Telegraph office at Burlington, Iowa, but he knows nothing of him since he left here, This is all I can learn.

Yours as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Aug: 20, 1851 (?)

HON: WM. MARTIN

Dear Sir:

I have just seen a letter of yours to Mr. Hickox, in which you *reiterate* that the publications for the calls were all made in the both the City papers at Springfield— May be they were; *but I tell you if they were, neither I, nor the editors or publisher's of the papers can find them.* All we can find is a publication made in town, for the *first* call, & one for the second, not in town— Surely you can not suppose I would be so pertenaceously (sic) urging you to send the ~~papers~~ (sic) publications, if I had them here ~~altogether~~ (sic) already—

You also say “If we had been informed that these books & witness were needed a week ago &c”

Well, nearly or quite six months ago, you & I by our correspondence, had it distinctly settled that I should need this book, witness & newspapers, when the trials of my cases should come on; and you had distinctly promised me that you would send them up *whenever* I should want them— Now, send them at once, if you shall not have done so already—

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

Hon: Wm. Martin, Alton, Illinois—

Letter by Lincoln to his mother.

(Springfield) November 4, 1851.

DEAR MOTHER:

Chapman tells me he wants you to go and live with him. If I were you I would try it awhile. If you get tired of it (as I think

you will not) you can return to your own home. Chapman feels very kindly to you; and I have no doubt he will make your situation very pleasant.

Sincerely your son,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield Feby 7 1852

H. M. WEAD, Esq—

Dear Sir—

Your letter enclosing ten dollars was received today. I have just called on Logan and he tells me they have paid the costs and will take a new trial— Be sure, therefore to send the brief, with the authorities on it— It might be well for you to re-record your old deed from the patentee, with the new certificate in it—

Yours truly

(signed) A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Augt 2 1852.

MESSRS. ADAMS & BOVEY

Gentlemen:

The court is about to adjourn; and it does not decide our case, but takes it under advisement—till next term. I suppose— It appears to me, however, that the signs are against us— What I mean by this is, that I have entire confidence that the law is with us on the Statute of Limitations, and yet it seems, I can not get the judge to remember that this is a question in the case at all— This morning he said he had a pretty decided opinion on "*the question*" already; but as it was a new, and very important one, he would consider it further— The "*the question*" he spoke of, was evidently the question as to a lien on after acquired lands, & not the act of limitation— Now, as to the question of Limitation, we must have a hearing on it, even if we have to go to the Supreme Court of the U. S. for it—that is, if the other question shall be decided against us— Be patient— They have not got your land yet— Write soon—

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Oct. 27, 1852

L. M. HAYS, Esq.

Dear Sir:

Yours of Sept. 30th just received— At our court, just past, I could have got a judgment against Tarley, if I had pressed to the utmost; but I am really sorry for him—*poor* and a *cripple* as he is— He begged time to try to find evidence to prove that the deceased on his deathbed, ordered the note to be given up to him or destroyed— I do not suppose he will get any such evidence; but I allowed him till next court to try—

Your &c

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Jan. 23, 1853.

ADAM ADAMS, Esq.

Dear Sir:

The summer term of the U. S. court is close upon us, and I wish to be ready to put your case before the court in the best possible shape— I suppose you and your witness will be down, and I wish you to call at the Land Office at Dixon, and procure & bring with you the *Register's* certificate, showing *who* entered the land, and the *date* of the entry— Mind, the *Register's* certificate—not the Receiver's receipt— The *Patent*, which I have, shows *who* entered the land, but does not show the *date* of the entry— I am trying to be prepared before-hand to get the case in the best shape I can—

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN—

P.S. Since I wrote the above, Logan came in & proposed to continue the cause over this summer term— If you prefer doing this, Telegraph me at once & it shall be done.

A. L.

Springfield, January 24, 1853.

REV. JAMES SMITH, D.D.:

Sir:—The undersigned having listened with great satisfaction to the discourse, on the subject of temperance, delivered by you

on last evening, and believing, that, if published and circulated among the people, it would be productive of good; would respectfully request a copy thereof for publication.

Very Respectfully,

Your friends:

Simeon Francis

Thomas Lewis

John Irwin

A. Camp

E. G. Johns

John Williams

John T. Stuart

A. Maxwell

H. Vanhoff

D. Spear

Reuben Coon

Henry Yeakle

E. B. Pease

R. F. Ruth

J. B. McCandless

C. Birchall

J. B. Fosselman

Henry M. Brown

Thomas Moffett

B. S. Edwards

Thomas Alsop

W. B. Cowgill

M. Greenleaf

James W. Barret

P. Wright

S. Grubb, Sr.

G. Jayne

J. C. Planck

John E. Denny

W. M. Cowgill

D. E. Ruckel

Thomas M. Taylor

John A. Chesnut

Mat Stacy

H. S. Thomas

B. B. Brown

William F. Aitkin

Allen Francis

A. LINCOLN.

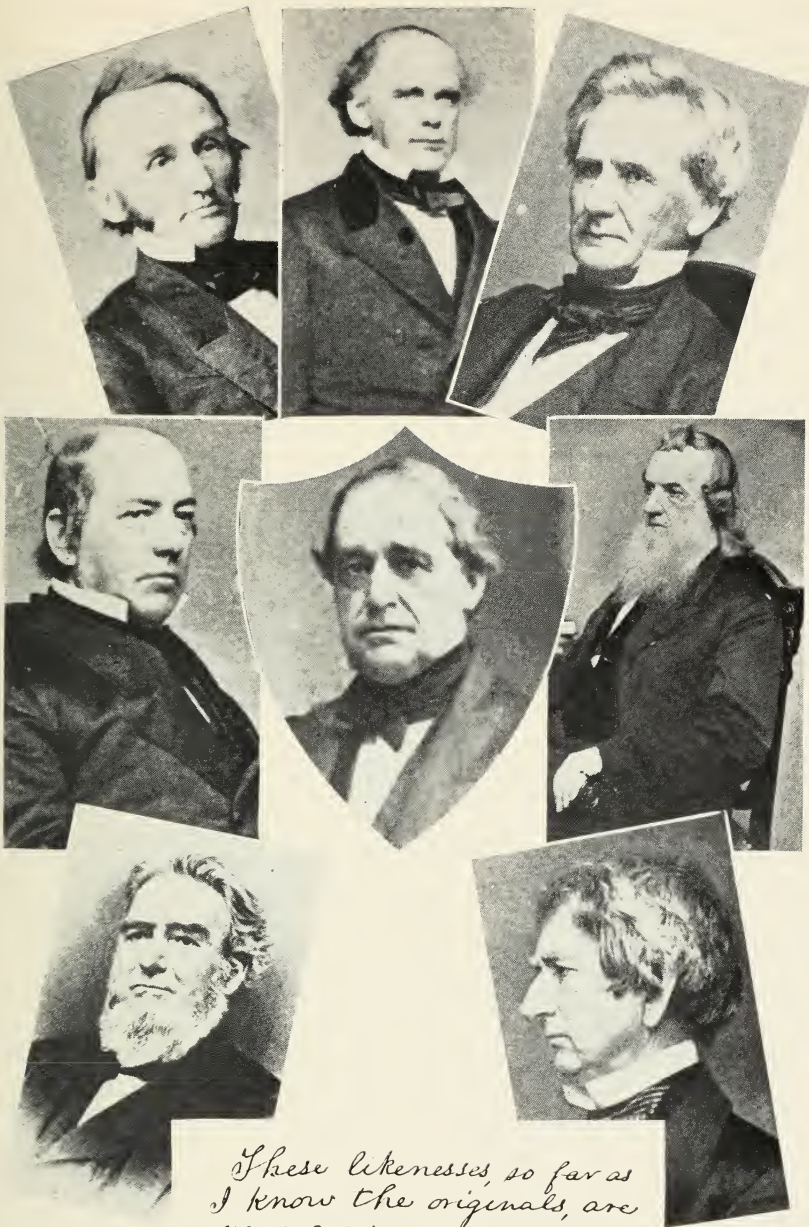
Springfield, Ills. Feb 14, 1853

SOLON CUMINS, Esq.

Grand Detour Ills.

Dear Sir:

Your letter, in relation to Mr. Adams' business is received—The time will possibly come when we shall need Bradshaw's testimony to the point you mention, but in the present attitude of the case we are not ready for it—it would not avail us *now* if we had it— Still, I shall be very glad if you will ascertain, and put down in writing, exactly what Bradshaw will swear, on the question of Denny having been paid for the land with Adams' money, & also, as to whether Adams, when he took the deed, had any



*These likenesses, so far as
I know the originals, are
very good.*

A. Lincoln.

Dec. 13, 1861.

Lincoln's Cabinet

knowledge of Kemper's judgment against Bradshaw— Ascertain these things & write me what they are—

Very Respectfully

A. LINCOLN—

Springfield, Ill., Feby. 15, 1853.

HON. JOHN A. ROCKWELL.

My dear Sir: I have failed to get your Coal Mining Charter. Being very busy in the Courts when your letter reached me, I let a few days slip before attending to it (sic) A little more than a week before the close of the Session, I got a Bill for the Charter howsoever into the Senate, which Body it passed in about five days— It then went to the H. R. and was lost for want of time— No one was opposed to it, but every one was much more anxious about some other Bill, so it became evident a large proportion of all would be lost— With us there is no lengthening out the Session, over a day, to get through with business— The New Constitution, adopted in 1848, limits the pay of members to two dollars per day for the first six weeks, and to one dollar per day afterwards— The practical result is they never sit a day over the six weeks.

I have said there was no opposition to your bill— I should qualify this by saying that there was objection to allowing you to connect by railroads with the Canal and Rock Island roads, all three; and so I have to frame the bill to authorize you to make only *one* of such connections, with the option however, as to which one—

No objection was made about names; and accordingly the bill was to John A. Rockwell, his associates, successors & assigns—

If you continue to desire it, I will get it passed at the next Session—it being borne in mind that at a *called* Session the door may not be opened for such business.

Your obt. Servant,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, March 8, 1853.

DEAR LINDER—

The change of circuits prevents my attending the Edgar court this Spring, and perhaps generally hereafter. There is a little

Ejectment case from Bloomfield, in which the name of Davidson figures, but in which a couple of men by the name of Bailey are interested; and for defending which I have been paid a little fee. Now I dislike to keep the money without doing the service, & I also hate to disgorge; and I therefore request of you to defend the case for me; & I will, in due time, do as much or more for you. Write me whether you can do it.

Yours as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Danville, Ill., May 27, 1853.

GEORGE B. KINKEAD, Esq.

Lexington, Ky.

I am here attending court a hundred and thirty miles from home, and where a copy of your letter of this month to Mr. Edwards, reached me from him, last evening. I find it difficult to suppress my indignation towards those who have got up this claim against me. I would really be glad to hear Mr. Hemingway explain how he was induced to *swear* he *believed* the claim to be just! I herewith inclose my answer. If it is insufficient either in substance, or in the authentication of the oath, return it to me at Springfield (where I shall be after about ten days) stating the defective points. You will perceive in my answer that I ask the Petitioners to be ruled to file a bill of particulars, stating *names* and *residences*, etc. I do this to enable me to absolutely disprove the claim. I can really prove by independent evidence every material statement of my answer, and if they will name any living accessible man, as one of whom I have received their money, I will *by that man* disprove the charge. I know it is for *them* to prove their claim rather than for *me* to disprove it; but I am unwilling to trust the oath of any man, who either *made* or *prompted* the oath to the Petition.

Write me soon.

Very respectfully,

A. LINCOLN.

JAMES KELLY

vs.

DAVID G. EVANS

Executor of

JESSE D. BLACKLEDGE

Deceased.

In County Court of Logan County—
Trial on the 7th of May & Judgment
for Defendant, on the ground that
the claim had not been *proved* within
two years,— It was filed as a claim
against the estate within the two
years & so marked by the Clerk Sept.
6, 1853, and, as it was the record of
a judgment duly attested, no further
proof was thought necessary—

Case appealed to Circuit Court— Bond, of Kelly, executed by
A. Lincoln, as his Atty, and also signed by *Abraham Lincoln*
as surety— Bond dated May 23— Bond, transcript and other
papers filed with the clerk of the Circuit Court June 8, 1855.

The transcript of Judgment from Ohio, names Blackledge as
Jesse Blackledge, and so do all the papers got up by *Lincoln* at
the bringing of this suit; but the transcript & Appeal bond
use Jesse D. Blackledge.

August 10, 1855. This day sent blank ratification and power,
for Kelly to execute & return, to A. L. Brewer, New Lisbon,
Ohio—

The answer which was inclosed is as follows:

The separate answer of Abraham Lincoln to a Petition ex-
hibited in the Fayette circuit court in the Commonwealth of Ken-
tucky, against said Lincoln, Ninian W. Edwards, and George
B. Kinkead, by Edward Oldham and Thomas Hemingway, sen'r
surviving partners of Oldham, Todd & Co.

This Respondent, saving, reserving &c, for answer to said
Petition says he believes it is true, and therefore he admits that
said Petitioners are the surviving partners of said firm of Old-
ham, Todd & Co; that said firm did consist of the persons named
as the members thereof in said Petition; and that said Robert
S. Todd did depart this life about the time stated in said Peti-
tion. But this Respondent utterly denies that he is, or ever was,
indebted to said firm, or to said Petitioners as surviving partners
thereof, or in any way howsoever; he denies that he ever collected
\$472 54/100 or any other sum whatever, for said firm, or to
said Petitioners, in any capacity whatever; he denies that he

ever had placed in his charge for collection, any debt or claim for said firm, or for said Petitioners, of any sort whatever; and he denies that he ever was employed as the attorney or in any other capacity, of said firm, or of said Petitioners, in any matter whatever so far as he remembers or believes. Respondent cannot conceive on what the charge of said Petitioners against him is founded, unless it be the following facts— In the autumn of 1843, and after Respondent had intermarried with said Robert S. Todd's daughter, said Robert S. Todd visited Springfield, Illinois, when and where, Respondent, for the first time in his life, met him.

During that visit, said Todd remarked to this Respondent that there were two desperate or doubtful debts due Oldham, Todd & Co.—one at, or near, Beardstown, Illinois, in charge of an attorney by the name of Henry E. Dummer, and the other at Shelbyville, Illinois, in charge of whom Respondent does not remember, and that if any thing could be collected on said debts he desired Respondent to take and retain it as his own. Afterwards, and as Respondent remembers, in 1854, said Dummer paid over to this Respondent, the sum of fifty dollars, representing that sum to be all, beyond charges, that could be collected on the said claim in his hands. And as to the said debt at Shelbyville, nothing whatever has come to the hands of this Respondent directly or indirectly, and Respondent supposes said debt has not been paid to any one else, but remains wholly unpaid. If Respondent ever knew, he has forgotten the name of the debtor at Beardstown; but he believes one Marshall Basye was the debtor, or one of the debtors, at Shelbyville. Respondent was not desired to take, and did not take charge of said claims as an attorney, or in any otherwise than as herein stated; so far as he remembers or believes he never spoke or wrote to either of the debtors on the subject; nor ever in any way attempted to supersede the attornies (sic) in whose hands the claims were originally placed; and, with the exception of the fifty dollars aforesaid, received by Respondent denies that he ever received any thing whatever, to which said firm, or said Petitioners could have a pretence of a claim. Respondent further states that when he visited Lexington in the autumn of 1849, as he remembers, he stated this whole matter to said Hemingway and to L. O. Todd, as he now states

it; and that, more recently, in the spring of 1852, he again fully stated it, in his sworn answer to a Bill filed for the adjustment of the estate of said Robert S. Todd, which answer doubtless is on file in the said Fayette circuit court, and Respondent supposes said court, in that case, decided and adjusted the rights of the parties arising upon said state of facts.

Respondent cares but little for said fifty dollars; if it is his legal right he prefers retaining it; but he objects to repaying it once to the estate of said Robert S. Todd, and again to said firm or to said Petitioners; and he particularly objects to being compelled to pay money to said firm or said Petitioners which he never received at all.

Respondent prays that said Petitioners may be ruled to file a Bill of particulars, stating the names and residences of the persons of whom, they claim that Respondent has collected money belonging to them. Respondent admits that he resides in Illinois; that said George B. Kinkead is his attorney; and that he had means in his hands belonging to Respondent, substantially as is in said Petition stated; and now having fully answered &c.

A. LINCOLN.

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
VERMILION COUNTY } ss.

Before me, Samuel G. Craig, clerk of the Circuit Court of the County aforesaid, this day personally appeared Abraham Lincoln, whose name is subscribed to this answer written on this sheet, and who being by me first duly sworn, states on oath that all the statements in said answer are true in substance and in fact. In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of said Court on this 27th day of May, A.D. 1853.

SAM'L G. CRAIG, Clk.

Springfield, June 27, 1853.

HON. THOMAS J. TURNER,
Freeport, Ill.

Your letter of the 20th reached me day-before-yesterday—I had, the day before, written to Adams (his client) to be on hand with his witnesses—but, at the request of Judge Logan (Stephen T. Logan, Lincoln's former law partner), who is Kemper's attor-

ney, I put in a Postscript, saying to Adams, if he was agreed, the cause should be continued over the summer term. On subsequent reflection, I rather wish Adams may not agree— I have the case fresh in my mind, and therefore wish to keep it going till it is finished. . . . (Gives an outline of the proceedings to date, his plans in regard to future moves, and closes with,—) I should be glad to see you & shake you by the hand; but as there is no contested jury question, I scarcely think you need be at the trouble & expense of coming. All the law questions which can arise at the term, the Judge has already decided.

Very truly yours

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. July 6, 1853.

GEO. B. KINKEAD, Esq.

Lexington, Ky.

Dear Sir:

I feel some anxiety about the suit which has been gotten up against me in your court; and I therefore hope you will pardon my requesting you to write me when your court sits—whether it is probable I shall have to take proof here &c. &c. In the autumn of 1849 I was at Lexington several days, during which time I was almost constantly with L. O. Todd; and if he shall, when this case comes on to be tried, *think he remembers* that I told him I had collected money for Oldham, Todd & Co, the story would be plausible enough to require an answer. Such recollection would be an utter mistake; yet if something of the sort is not relied on, I can not not (sic) conceive how Mr. Hemingway was induced to swear to the truth of the Bill; for they can not, in any other way, make the slightest show of proof. I therefore think it safest to look to their making this proof, as, at least, possible, and to be prepared for it. I have said before, and now repeat, that if they will name the man or men of whom, they say, I have collected money for them, I will *disprove* it. I hope you will write me at once. I conclude with the remark that I expect you to be compensated for your services in this case, in addition, to your compensation for your attention to our business, in common, there.

Respectfully

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, August 15, 1853.

TO HON. THOMAS J. TURNER,
Freeport, Illinois.

The letter, which refers to the same case as the preceding item, and is addressed to the same person, is concerned with the sending of Commissioner's Certificates for the taking of depositions of witnesses by Mr. Turner. After stating the reasons for the form used, and directions for the method, he says, in regard to his former partner, Judge Logan, who is representing the opposite side in the case,—

When I served notice on Logan I promised him that if he would name any attorney in the vicinity whom he would wish to be present at the taking of the depositions, I would request you to notify him of the time and place, but he is gone off to the "World's Fair" (without having named any. You will perceive Logan filed cross-interrogations; and which I hope may be as fully and fairly answered as our own. . . . Very truly your friend,

A. LINCOLN.

Bloomington, Ills Sept. 13, 1853

GEO. B. KINKEAD, Esq.

Lexington, Ky.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 2nd Inst. to Mr. Edwards, has been forwarded by him to me here where I am attending court. When, in your letter to me, of the 12th July, you gave the opinion that O. T. & Co would abandon their suit, it was plain to my mind they intended no such thing, else they would have told you so plainly. The matter now takes me at great disadvantage, in this, that it will cost me more to leave the Circuit (which has just commenced) and attend to taking proof, than it would to give up the claim; and your letter does not mention the *time* of your next term.

But the great difficulty of all is the want of something definite, to take proof about. Without a bill of particulars stating the names of the persons of whom, O. T. & Co claim that I have collected money for them, any proof I can possibly take, will be wide of the mark—can not meet Levi's statement, (which I now suppose he is determined to make) that "I told him I owed the

amount attached." I can prove by John T. Stuart, of Springfield Illinois, that he & I were partners in the law from the Spring of 1837 to the Spring of 1841, and that, so far as he knows, we never had any business for O. T. & Co. By Stephen T. Logan of Springfield, Ills, that he & I were partners from the Spring of 1841 to the autumn of 1844, and that so far as he knows, he & I never had any business for O. T. & Co. By William H. Herndon of Springfield, Ills, that he and I have been partners from the autumn of 1844 up to the present time; and that so far as he knows, he & I never had any business for O. T. & Co. And by all three that they never knew of me, individually having any business for O. T. & Co. Also, by Ninian W. Edwards of Springfield, Ill, that so far as he knows or believes the whole of the business of O. T. & Co in Illinois passed through his hands, and that so far as he knows or believes, none of it ever went into my hands—that the claims at Beardstown and Shelbyville both passed through his hands, and were, in the fall of 1843, given to me, as desperate debts, by Mr. Todd, in manner as I have stated in my answer; and that less than three years ago, the father-in-law of one of the debtors, called on him to try to compound the debt. As I understand, both these claims went into judgments; and as to that at Beardstown, I can prove the truth of the answer, by the record; and by Henry E Dummer of Beardstown, Cass Co Ills. As to that at Shelbyville, I can prove the truth of the answer, by the record that it was taken not by me, but by a different attorney; and that it remains apparently unsatisfied. By William F. Thornton of Shelbyville, Illinois, that he is the father-in-law of the debtor—that the debtor has gone to California; and that he left this, among others, as an unpaid debt, which he desired the witness to compound for him if he could. All this I can prove; but without a Bill of particulars, it seems to me, it will not meet the case. *Can they not be ruled to give a Bill of particulars?*

This matter harasses my feelings a good deal; and I shall be greatly obliged if you will write me immediately, *under cover to Mr. Edwards at Springfield Ills*—telling me first, *when* is the next term of your court; and second, whether I *can* or *can not* have a bill of particulars.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Peoria, Ills. Sept. 30, 1853.

GEO. B. KINKEAD, ESQ.

Lexington, Ky.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 22nd has just reached me through Mr. Edwards, and for which I thank you heartily. I now feel that the case is entirely manageable. I well know who Hawley and Edwards are. The "Hawley" of that firm is Eliphalet B. Hawley; and the "Edwards" is no other than Ninian W. Edwards, whom you know nearly as well as I do, & being the same who, on behalf of himself, and the rest of us here, has conducted all the business with you, in relation to Mr. Todd's estate. Mr. Hawley still lives at Springfield; and I will thank you to give a notice to take his deposition at the same time and place named in my former letter for the taking of that of Mr. Edwards & others at Springfield.

Very truly yours &c

A. LINCOLN.

P.S. Still write me, under cover to Mr. Edwards at Springfield, who will forward to me.

A. L.

Springfield, Nov. 11. 1853—

(Jesse J. Ricks, New York City.)

DEAR SIR: Judge Logan, Kemper's Attorney, authorizes me say he consents to the within named Clerk, taking the deposition, in lieu of the man named in the Commission, on condition that, if you can, you will notify Kemper's lawyer there, of the time & place— Mr Adams perhaps will know who the lawyer is— Dont neglect, or fail for your life

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Dec 14, 1853.

HON. T. J. TURNER

Dear Sir,

Your letter and the depositions both reached here yesterday; and, by agreement, Logan and I have opened the depositions and read them— By my agreement with Logan, made when I filed the Bill last summer, he has the option to continue the cause over

this ensuing term, and he now elects to do so— This dispenses with your coming *now*, even if you should attend the trial when it does come off, which I think you need not do at any sacrifice— The depositions, in the main, are very good; yet there are two or three points, which I will mention, that I would prefer to have differently— First, and least, it does not appear that *Bovey* advanced any of the money to pay Denny— Secondly, that *Rollins* sold to Adams, that Adams advanced the money, and that the deed was to be made to Adams, *only appears by Bradshaws declarations and admissions—and quare*, are his declarations & admissions competent evidence? I hope they are, and will examine—

Thirdly— There is an obvious question unanswered—“Why was Bradshaw interfering in the matter at all? It is easy to argue against us, that he had some sort of interest, and took & held the legal title, till something beyond the money going to Denny should be paid to him, Bradshaw— The consideration mentioned in Bradshaws deed to Adams & Bovey, being greater than \$1400 favors this argument—

Lastly, and what I dislike more than all, is that Jacob Adams proves that Adam Adams was *with* Bradshaw when he took the deed from Denny to himself— Is this really the fact? I had always understood that Adams & Bovey were totally ignorant of the reason of Bradshaw’s taking the deed to himself, and also ignorant of the fact till Bs return to Rock river—

I have the right, at the term, of amending the Bill, without excluding the evidence already taken; and consequently I must be informed at once, whether Adams *was* with Bradshaw when he took the deed from Denny—

I shall write to Adams on the subject—

I understand Denny & Rollins are both dead; and I now wish we had proved the fact, as an excuse for not making them witnesses—

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

The *Public Ledger* of Philadelphia in a dispatch dated May 1, 1920, from Paris by Wythe Williams says:

At the San Remo conference in April 1920, a representative from Zara had an unpublished letter by Abraham Lincoln dated Springfield, Ill., 1853. The letter was addressed to the eminent Italian physicist Macedonio Melloni; this letter was found in the archives of the Melloni family at Modena. Countess Zucconolini of Modena has the original.

Humboldt has given me the message you sent me through Mr. Faraday, of your desire to have my thoughts concerning the political reorganization of Europe. I admire all you have suffered for science and still more what you have suffered for the independence and liberty of your beloved country. I am convinced that when the barbarians swept down upon ancient Rome they profited by the state of moral dissolution, from which the empire then suffered, to destroy, sack and obliterate and thus retard for several centuries the triumphal march of civilization.

We were all on the road to the forming of a single race when suddenly there fell upon the civilized world that epoch of deep darkness, that epoch of barbarism, obscuring the glorious light of immortal, eternal Rome—that Rome which had given civilization to the entire world, that Rome which has even made America a civilized nation and which has nourished us morally by her indisputable laws, that Rome which in my opinion will be, in the more or less distant future, the luminous capital of the United States of Europe. It is criminal to obstruct the normal course of the development of nations and block the foundation of the future United States of Europe.

First of all, in order to realize this end, it is indispensable to assure the absolute independence of Italy because this independence is necessary for the equilibrium of the civilized world. All of the Italian peninsula with its islands should be completely united in one nation.

The kingdom of Lombardy, with the two Venices, the Trentino and Julian provinces, should be united to the mother country without any interruption of territory and with absolute mastery of the ancient lake of Venice—the Adriatic—from Fiume as far as Cattaro without interruption, the whole length of Dalmatia as far as Albania, which also ought to be absolutely united to Italy.

The only Italian unity which can be admitted is one which does not permit the trampling under foot of the simplest princi-

ples of the actual political situation, thus to prepare for the near future the most bloody, most deadly of wars.

Dalmatia has a history of almost twenty-two centuries. The ethnical quantities which have been violently superimposed there, to the prejudice of the native Italians, are formed by the most barbarous people of the world—the Bulgarians, Croats, Serbians. As I wrote you last time, the Serbians in particular take no glory except in assassination and crimes of carnage and vandalism of every description.

This glorious Dalmatia, by the treaty of Campo Formio, was first given to Austria, then given to Napoleon, your great citizen, who has enriched the glory of France in the same manner as Christopher Columbus has enriched that of Spain. Then by the Holy Alliance it was handed back to Austria.

As to the Albanians, they are Italians and nothing else, the same as the Sicilians and the inhabitants of the southern part of your peninsula. When you Italians were already civilized we Americans had not yet been born.

Work along this line, my great friend. The task is hard but one must not be discouraged if you wish to avoid for your children a political upheaval which will have the most terrible consequences.

Two empires in my opinion are destined to disappear from the face of the earth to make place for the birth of free and independent nationalities. I mean the British empire and the Austrian empire which are indeed historical absurdities or, if you like better the expression, ethnical paradoxes. The universal confederation of human consciences must triumph.

Napoleon once said that Europe would either become republican or Cossack. She must not become Cossack. Russia, it is true, contemplates the conquest of Constantinople and India in order to possess the hegemony of the world, but no people should oppress others to restrict them in the geographical distribution of nations. There will always be ethnical minorities included in great masses and in the older nations, but they should for the moment live in peace and harmony with each other because their sacred rights will be defended when the day of the desired confederation comes. The straits of the Dardanelles and Gibraltar should be accessible to all, and if some day the Isthmus of Suez be pierced

by a canal, it must not be an iniquitous privilege for one people to the exclusion of all others. It ought to enjoy a natural and logical freedom.

Going back to what I have already said, I believe that the revolution should penetrate in the conscience of all humanity without distinction in order to avoid the violences, thefts, brutalities, pillages and bloody impositions which form the patrimony of humanity and which already surpass what poor humans can stagger under. Nations disappear, but the ideal remains. It is eternal. For the triumph of this holy ideal, my dear Melloni, one should fight to one's last breath. Science teaches us that our politics should end all the forms of imperialism which weigh as a great cloud on the human race. This then would be true civilization. Yours,

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. March 31, 1854.

MR. GEORGE B. KINKEAD, Esq.

Dear Sir:

Your note of January 1st, informing me that Messrs Oldham & Hemingway had dismissed their suit against me, was duly received. I write this now merely to say that I expect and desire you to be paid a separate fee for your attention to that suit; and to authorize you to retain what you shall deem reasonable on that account, out of any money of mine which is or may come into your hands. If nothing further for me is, or is likely to be in your hands, write me and I will forward you the amount.

Very truly yours &c.,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., June 16, 1854.

GEORGE B. KINKEAD

Lexington, Ky.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 8th inst. to N. W. Edwards, inclosing a draft of between two and three hundred dollars (I write from memory only as to the amount) reached here a day or two since, and was, in Mr. Edwards' absence, taken from the P. Office and opened by his brother. It was shown to me this morning and

will be kept at the store of which Mr. Edwards is a partner until his return, which will be about six weeks hence & when, doubtless, he will write you.

I ran my eye over the contents of your letter & only have to say you do not seem to compensate yourself very liberally for the separate service you did for me.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., August 9, 1854.

HON. H. G. WELLS

Dear Sir: Yours of July 24th inviting me to be present at a Fremont mass meeting to be held on the 27th of August at Kalamazoo has been forwarded to me by Mr. Mechem of Kankakee. It would afford me great pleasure to be with you, and I will do so if possible, but I can not promise positively.

We are having trouble here that needs the attention of all of us— I mean the Fillmore movement. With the Fremont and Fillmore men united here in Illinois we have Mr. Buchanan in the hollow of our hand, but with us divided as we now are he has us. This is the short and simple truth, I believe.

Very respectfully,

A. LINCOLN.

\$125—

Springfield, August 11—1854.

Four year after date I promise to pay Abraham Lincoln, one hundred and twenty-five dollars, with ten per cent interest per annum from date until paid, interest payable annually, for value received—

RITTA ANGELICA DA SILVA.

(Written across note: This note paid in full this Novr. 26, 1858— Receipt given yesterday for \$125—of the money.

A. LINCOLN.)

Springfield, August 18, 1854.

HON. R. YATES,

Jacksonville, Ill.

My dear Sir: I am disappointed at not having seen or heard from you since I met you more than a week ago at the railroad

depot here. I wish to have the matter we spoke of settled and working to its consummation. I understand that our friend B. S. Edwards is entirely satisfied now, and when I can assure myself of this perfectly I would like, by your leave, to get an additional paragraph into the Journal, about as follows:

“To-day we place the name of Hon. Richard Yates at the head of our columns for reelection as the Whig candidate for this congressional district. We do this without consultation with him and subject to the decision of a Whig convention, should the holding of one be deemed necessary; hoping, however, there may be unanimous acquiescence without a convention.”

May I do this? Answer by return mail.

Yours, as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

(Date) Oct. 4, 1854.

My distinguished friend, Douglas, says it is an insult to the emigrants to Kansas and Nebraska to suppose that they are not able to govern themselves. We must not slur over an argument of this kind because it happens to tickle the ear. It must be met and answered. I admit that the emigrant to Kansas and Nebraska is competent to govern himself, *but I deny his right to govern any other person without that person's consent.*

On October 24th, 1854, Lincoln delivered the third speech on the issue of slavery at Urbana.

Fellow citizens of Champaign County: agreeably to an invitation which I have received since coming to your town, I shall address you upon the recent repeal by the congress of the United States of the Missouri compromise, so called, and the expediency, if not, indeed, necessity, that that repeal be itself repealed: and in order that I may make my remarks clear, and not, in anywise, misunderstood, I will review in a brief manner, the history of the slavery question and kindred matters prior to and including the enactment of, that celebrated, so called, compromise.

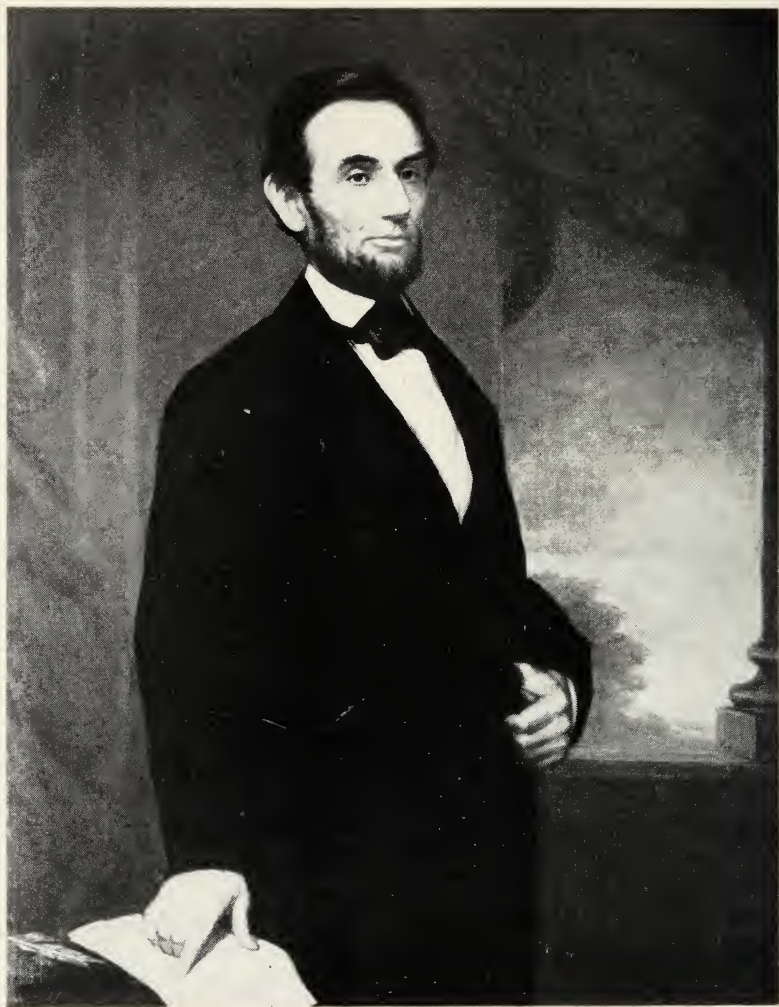
When we established our independence, we did not own the country to which this compromise applies. Indeed, the Confederacy then owned no country at all; the states respectively

owned the country within their limits, and some of them owned territory beyond their strict state limits. Virginia thus owned the Northwestern Territory—the country out of which the principal part of Ohio, all Indiana, all Illinois, all Michigan, and all Wisconsin, have since been formed. She also owned what has since been formed into the State of Kentucky. North Carolina thus owned what is now the State of Tennessee, and South Carolina and Georgia owned, in separate parts, what are now Mississippi and Alabama. Connecticut, I think, owned the little remaining part of Ohio—being the same where they now send Giddings to Congress, and beat all creation at making cheese.

These territories, together with the states themselves, constituted all the country over which the Government then claimed any sort of jurisdiction. We were then living under the Articles of Confederation, which were superseded by the Constitution several years afterward. The question of ceding these territories to the General Government was set on foot. Mr. Jefferson—the author of the Declaration of Independence, and otherwise a chief actor in the Revolution; then a delegate in Congress; afterward, twice President; who was, is, and perhaps will continue to be, the most distinguished politician of our history; a Virginian by birth and continued residence, and withal a slaveholder—conceived the idea of taking that occasion to prevent slavery ever going into the Northwestern Territory. He prevailed on the Virginia Legislature to cede the territory. Congress accepted the cession, and in the first ordinance for the government of the territory provided that slavery should never be permitted therein. This is the famed “Ordinance of ’87,” so often spoken of.

Thenceforward, for sixty-one years, and until, in 1848, the last scrap of this territory came into the Union as the State of Wisconsin, all parties acted in quiet obedience to this ordinance. It is now what Jefferson foresaw and intended—the happy home of teeming millions of free, white, prosperous people, and no slave among them.

Thus, with the author of the Declaration of Independence, the policy of prohibiting slavery in new territory originated. Thus, away back of the Constitution, in the pure, fresh, free breath of the Revolution, the state of Virginia and the National Congress put that policy in practice. Thus, through more than sixty



Portrait by William Cogswell, 1864

of the best years of the Republic, did that policy steadily work to its great and beneficent end. And thus, in those five states, and five millions of free, enterprising people, we have before us the rich fruits of this policy.

But to return to history. Napoleon being engaged in his continental wars and being distressingly in need of money, made a proposition to President Jefferson to sell and cede to our government for fifteen millions of dollars, his possessions adjacent to our borders, and Jefferson, though a strict constructionist of the constitution, in 1803 purchased what was then called Louisiana, and also including Arkansas, Missouri and Iowa, the territory of Minnesota, and the present bone of contention, Kansas and Nebraska. Slavery already existed among the French at New Orleans, and to some extent, at St. Louis. In 1812, Louisiana came into the Union as a slave state without controversy. In 1818 or '19, Missouri showed signs of a wish to come in with slavery. This was resisted by northern members of Congress, and thus began the first great slavery agitation in the nation. This controversy lasted several months, and became very angry and exciting; the House of Representatives voting steadily for the prohibition of slavery in Missouri, and the Senate voting as steadily against it. Threats of breaking up the Union were freely made, and the ablest public men of the day became seriously alarmed. At length a compromise was made, in which, as in all compromises, both sides yielded something. It was a law passed on the 6th day of March, 1820, providing that Missouri might come into the Union *with* slavery, but that in all the remaining part of the territory purchased of France, which lies north of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes north latitude, slavery should never be permitted. This provision of law is *the Missouri Compromise*. In excluding slavery north of the line, the same language is employed as in the ordinance of '87. It directly applied to Iowa, Minnesota, and to the present bone of contention, Kansas and Nebraska. Whether there should or should not be slavery south of that line, nothing was said in the law. But Arkansas constituted the principal remaining part, south of the line; and it has since been admitted as a slave state, without serious controversy. More recently, Iowa, north of the line, came in as a free state, without controversy. Still later, Minnesota,

north of the line, had a territorial organization, without controversy. Texas, principally south of the line, and west of Arkansas, though originally within the purchase from France, had, in 1819, been traded off to Spain, in our treaty for the acquisition of Florida. It had thus become a part of Mexico. Mexico revolutionized, and became independent of Spain. American citizens began settling rapidly with their slaves in the southern part of Texas. Soon they revolutionized against Mexico, and established an independent government of their own, adopting a Constitution, with slavery, strongly resembling the Constitutions of our slave states. By still another rapid move, Texas, claiming a boundary much further west than when we parted with her in 1819, was brought back to the United States, and admitted into the Union as a slave state. Then there was little or no settlement in the northern part of Texas, a considerable portion of which lay north of the Missouri line; and in the resolutions admitting her into the Union, the Missouri restriction was expressly extended westward across her territory. This was in 1845, only nine years ago.

Thus originated the Missouri Compromise; and thus has it been respected down to 1845.

The war with Mexico broke out in 1846. When Congress was about adjourning that session, President Polk asked them to place two millions of dollars under his control, to be used by him in the recess, if found practicable and expedient, in negotiating a treaty of peace with Mexico, and acquiring some part of her territory. A bill was duly gotten up for the purpose, and was progressing swimmingly in the House of Representatives, when a member by the name of David Wilmot, a Democrat from Pennsylvania, moved as an amendment, "Provided, that in any territory thus acquired, there shall never be slavery."

This is the origin of the far-famed "Wilmot Proviso." It created a great flutter; but it stuck like wax, was voted into the bill, and the bill passed with it through the House. The Senate, however, adjourned without final action on it, and so both appropriation and proviso were lost, for the time. The war continued, and at the next session the President renewed his request for the appropriation, enlarging the amount, I think, to three millions. Again came the proviso, and defeated the measure. Congress adjourned again, and the war went on. In December, 1847, the

new Congress assembled. I was in the lower House that term. The "Wilmot Proviso," or the principle of it, was constantly coming up in some shape or other, and I think I may venture to say I voted for it at least forty times, during the little time I was there. The Senate, however, held it in check, and it never became a law. In the spring of 1848 a treaty of peace was made with Mexico, by which we obtained that portion of her country which now constitutes the territories of New Mexico and Utah, and the present State of California. By this treaty the "Wilmot Proviso" was defeated, in so far as it was intended to be a condition of the acquisition of territory. Its friends, however, were still determined to find some way to restrain slavery from getting into the new country. This new acquisition lay directly west of our old purchase from France, and extended west to the Pacific Ocean—and was so situated that if the Missouri line should be extended straight west, the new country would be divided by such extended line, leaving some north and some south of it.

A bill passed the Senate to so extend the Missouri line. The Proviso men in the House, including myself, voted it down, because, by implication, it gave up the southern part to slavery, while we were bent on having it *all* free.

In 1849 the gold mines were discovered in California. This attracted people to it with unprecedented rapidity, so that on, or soon after, the meeting of the new Congress in December, 1849, she already had a population of nearly a hundred thousand, had called a convention, formed a State Constitution, excluding slavery, and was knocking for admission into the Union. The Proviso men, of course, were for letting her in, but the Senate, always true to the other side, would not consent to her admission. And there California stood, kept *out* of the Union, because she would not let slavery *into* her borders. Under all the circumstances, perhaps this was not wrong. There were other points of dispute connected with the general question of slavery, which equally needed adjustment. The South clamored for a more efficient fugitive slave law. The North clamored for the abolition of a peculiar species of slave-trade in the District of Columbia, in connection with which, in view from the windows of the Capitol, a sort of negro livery-stable, where droves of negroes were collected, temporarily kept, and finally taken to Southern markets,

precisely like droves of horses, had been openly maintained for fifty years. Utah and New Mexico needed territorial governments; and whether slavery should or should not be prohibited within them was another question. The indefinite western boundary of Texas was to be settled. She was a slave state, and consequently the farther west the slavery men could push her boundary, the more slave country they secured; and the farther east the slavery opponents could thrust the boundary back, the less slave ground was secured. Thus this was just as clearly a slavery question as any of the others.

These points all needed adjustment; and they were all held up, perhaps wisely, to make them help to adjust one another. The Union now, as in 1820, was thought to be in danger; and devotion to the Union rightfully inclined men to yield somewhat, in points, where nothing else could have so inclined them. A compromise was finally effected. The South got their new fugitive slave law; and the North got California as a free state. The South got a provision that New Mexico and Utah, *when admitted as states*, may come in *with* or *without* slavery as they may then choose; and the North got the slave-trade abolished in the District of Columbia. The North got the western boundary of Texas thrown farther back eastward than the South desired; but, in turn, they gave Texas ten millions of dollars, with which to pay her old debts. This was the Compromise of 1850.

Preceding the Presidential election of 1852, each of the great political parties, Democrats and Whigs, met in convention, and adopted resolutions indorsing the Compromise of '50, as a "finality," a final settlement, so far as these parties could make it so, of all slavery agitation. Previous to this, in 1851, the Illinois Legislature had indorsed it.

During this long period of time, Nebraska had remained substantially an uninhabited country, but now emigration to, and settlement within it, began to take place. It is about one-third as large as the present United States, and its importance, so long overlooked, begins to come into view. The restriction of slavery by the Missouri Compromise directly applies to it; in fact, was first made, and has since been maintained expressly for it. In 1853, a bill to give it a territorial government passed the House of Representatives, and failed of passing only for want of time.

This bill contained no repeal of the Missouri Compromise. On January 4th, 1854, Douglas introduced a new bill to give Nebraska territorial government. He accompanied this bill with a report, in which last, he expressly recommends that the Missouri Compromise shall neither be affirmed nor repealed. (I wanted to read just a little from that report, but I can't get this candle to stand.)

Before long the bill is so modified as to make two territories instead of one, calling the southern one Kansas.

Also, about a month after the introduction of the bill, on Douglas' motion, it is so amended as to declare the Missouri Compromise inoperative and void; and, substantially, that the people who go and settle there may establish slavery, or exclude it, as they may see fit. In this shape, the bill passed both branches of Congress and became a law.

This is the *repeal* of the Missouri Compromise. I shall try to show, that it is wrong, and pernicious; wrong in its direct effect, letting slavery into Kansas and Nebraska, and wrong in its prospective principle, allowing it to spread to every other part of the Nation, where men can be found inclined to take it.

This declared indifference, but, as I must think, covert zeal for the spread of slavery I cannot but hate. I hate it because of the monstrous injustice of slavery itself. I hate it, because it deprives our republican example of its just influence in the world, enables the enemies of free institutions with plausibility to taunt us as hypocrites, causes the real friends of freedom to doubt our sincerity, and especially because it forces so many really good men among ourselves into an open war with the very fundamental principles of civil liberty, criticising the Declaration of Independence, and insisting that there is no right principle of action but self-interest.

Now I think I have no prejudice against the Southern people; they are just what we would be in their situation. If slavery did not now exist among them, they would not introduce it; if it did now exist amongst us, we should not instantly give it up. This I believe of the masses, North and South. Doubtless there are individuals on both sides, who would not hold slaves under any circumstances, and others would gladly introduce slavery anew if it went out of existence. We know that some Southern

men do free their slaves, go North, and become good Abolitionists, while some Northern men go South and become cruel slave-masters.

When Southern men tell us they are no more responsible for the origin of slavery than we, I acknowledge the fact. When it is said that the institution exists, and that it is very difficult to get rid of it in any satisfactory way, I can understand and appreciate the same. I surely will not blame them for not doing what I would not know how to do myself. If all earthly power were given me, I should not know what to do with the existing institution. My first impulse would be, to free all the existing slaves, and send them to Liberia—to their own native land—but a moment's reflection would convince me, that whatever of high hope (as I think there is) there may be in this, in the long run, its sudden execution is impossible. If they were all landed there in a day, they would all perish in the next ten days, and there are not surplus shipping and surplus money enough in the world to carry them there in many times ten days. What then? Free them all, and keep them among us as underlings? Is it quite certain that this betters their condition? I think I would not hold one in slavery at any rate, yet the point is not clear enough to me to denounce people upon.

What next? Free them, and make them politically and socially co-equals? My own feelings will not admit of this, and if mine would, we all know that those of the great mass of white people would not. Whether this feeling accords with justice and good judgment is not the sole question, if indeed, it is any part of it. A universal feeling, whether well or ill founded, cannot be safely disregarded; we cannot, then make them equals. It does seem to me that systems of gradual emancipation might be adopted, but for their tardiness in this, I will not undertake to judge our people of the South. When they remind us of their constitutional rights, I acknowledge them, fully and fairly, and I avow, without any mental reservation, my full endorsement of the fugitive slave law. It was formulated in obedience to a plain constitutional requirement, as one of the compromises of the constitution, without which that instrument would not probably have come into being, and it should be as fully and honestly respected and obeyed as any other provision in that instrument, and any law

to carry it into effect should be enforced like any other laws.

But all this, to my judgment, furnishes no excuse for permitting slavery to go into one more free territory than it would for reviving the African slave trade by law. The law which forbids the bringing of slaves from Africa and that which has so long forbidden the taking them to Nebraska can hardly be distinguished on any moral principle, and the repeal of the former could find quite as plausible excuses as that of the latter.

The arguments by which the repeal of the Missouri Compromise is sought to be justified, are that the Nebraska country needed a territorial government; that in various ways, the public had repudiated that Compromise, and demanded the repeal, and therefore should not now complain of it; and, that the repeal establishes a principle which is intrinsically right; if that country was in need of a territorial organization, could it not have had it as well without as with the repeal? Iowa and Minnesota, to both of which the Missouri restriction applied, had, without its repeal, each in succession, territorial organizations. And even the year before, a bill for Nebraska itself, came near passing, without the repealing clause; and this by the same men who are now the champions of repeal. Why no necessity then for the repeal? But still later, when this very bill was first brought in, it contained no repeal. But they say because the people had demanded, or rather commanded the repeal, the repeal was to accompany the organization, whenever that should occur.

I deny that the public ever demanded any such thing—ever repudiated the Missouri Compromise—ever commanded its repeal. It is not contended, I believe, that any such command has ever been in express terms. It is only said that it was done *in principle*. The support of the Wilmot Proviso is the first fact mentioned, to prove that the Missouri restriction was repudiated *in principle*, and the second is, the refusal to extend the Missouri line over the country acquired from Mexico. These are near enough alike to be treated together. The one was to exclude the chances of slavery from the whole new acquisition, and the other was to reject a division of it, by which one-half was to be given up to those chances. Whether this was a repudiation of the Missouri line, *in principle*, depends upon whether the Missouri law contained any *principle* requiring the line to be ex-

tended over the country acquired from Mexico. I contend it did not. I insist that it contained no general principle, but that it was, in every sense, specific. That its terms limit it to the country purchased from France, is undenied and undeniable. It could have no principle beyond the intention of those who made it. They did not intend to extend the line to country which they did not own. If they intended to extend it, in the event of acquiring additional territory, why did they not say so? It was just as easy to say, that "in all the country west of the Mississippi which we now own *or may hereafter acquire*, there shall never be slavery," as to say what they did say; and they would have said it, if they had meant it. An intention to extend the law is not only not mentioned in the law, but is not mentioned in any contemporaneous history. Both the law itself and the history of the times are a blank as to any *principle* of extension; and by neither the known rules for construing statutes and contracts, nor by common sense, can any such *principle* be inferred.

Another fact showing the specific character of the Missouri law—showing that it intended no more than it expressed; showing that the line was not intended as a universal dividing line between free and slave territory, present and prospective, north of which slavery could never go—is the fact that, by that very law, Missouri came in as a slave state, *north* of the line. If that law contained any prospective *principle*, the whole law must be looked to in order to ascertain what the *principle* was. And by this rule, the South could fairly contend that inasmuch as they got one slave state north of the line at the inception of the law, they have the right to have another given them *north* of it occasionally, now and then, in the indefinite westward extension of the line. This demonstrates the absurdity of attempting to deduce a prospective *principle* from the Missouri Compromise line.

When we voted for the Wilmot Proviso, we were voting to keep slavery out of the whole Mexican acquisition; and little did we think we were thereby voting to let it into Nebraska, lying several hundred miles distant. When we voted against extending the Missouri line, little did we think we were voting to destroy the old line, then of near thirty years' standing.

To argue that we thus repudiated the Missouri Compromise is no less absurd than it would be to argue that because we have

so far foreborne to acquire Cuba, we have thereby, *in principle*, repudiated our former acquisitions, and determined to throw them out of the Union. No less absurd than it would be to say that, because I may have refused to build an addition to my house, I thereby have decided to destroy the existing house! And if I catch you setting fire to my house, you will turn upon me, and say I INSTRUCTED you to do it!

The most conclusive argument, however, that, while voting for the Wilmot Proviso, and while voting against the EXTENSION of the Missouri line, we never thought of disturbing the original Missouri Compromise, is found in the fact that there was then, and still is, an unorganized tract of fine country, nearly as large as the State of Missouri, lying immediately west of Arkansas, and south of the Missouri Compromise line; and that we never attempted to prohibit slavery as to it. I wish particular attention to this. It adjoins the original Missouri Compromise line by its northern boundary; and consequently is part of the country into which, by implication, slavery was permitted to go by that Compromise. There it has lain open ever since, and there it still lies; and yet no effort has been made at any time to wrest it from the South. In all our struggles to prohibit slavery within our Mexican acquisitions, we never so much as lifted a finger to prohibit it as to this tract. Is not this entirely conclusive, that, at all times, we have held the Missouri Compromise as a sacred thing, even when against ourselves as well as when for us?

But next it is said that the Compromises of '50, and the ratification of them by both political parties in '52, established a *new principle*, which required the repeal of the Missouri Compromise. This, again, I deny. I deny it, and demand the proof. I have already stated fully what the Compromises of '50 are. The particular part of those measures from which the virtual repeal of the Missouri Compromise is sought to be inferred (for it is admitted they contain nothing about it, in express terms,) is the provision in the Utah and New Mexico laws, which permits them, when they seek admission into the Union as states, to come in with or without slavery, as they shall then see fit. Now I insist this provision was made for Utah and New Mexico, and for no other place whatever. It had no more direct reference to Nebraska than it had to the territories of the moon. But, say

they, it had reference to Nebraska, *in principle*. Let us see. The North consented to this provision, not because they considered it right in itself, but because they were compensated—paid for it.

They, at the same time, got California into the Union as a free state. This was far the best part of all they had struggled for by the Wilmot Proviso. They also got the area of slavery somewhat narrowed in the settlement of the boundary of Texas. Also, they got the slave-trade abolished in the District of Columbia.

For all these desirable objects, the North could afford to yield something; and they did yield to the South the Utah and New Mexico provision. I do not mean that the whole North, or even a majority, yielded, when the law passed; but enough yielded, when added to the vote of the South, to carry the measure. Now can it be pretended that the *principle* of this arrangement requires us to permit the same provision to be applied to Nebraska, *without any equivalent at all*? Give us another free state; press the boundary of Texas still further back; give us another step toward the destruction of slavery in the District, and you present us a similar case. But ask us not to repeat, for nothing, what you paid for in the first instance. If you wish the thing again, pay again. That is the *principle* of the Compromises of '50, if indeed they had any principles beyond their specific terms—it was the system of equivalents.

Again, if Congress, at that time, intended that all future territories should, when admitted as states, come in with or without slavery, at their own option, why did it not say so? With such an universal provision, all know the bills could not have passed. Did they, then—could they—establish a *principle* contrary to their own intention? Still further; if they intended to establish the principle that wherever Congress had control, it should be left to the people to do as they thought fit with slavery, why did they not authorize the people of the District of Columbia, at their option, to abolish slavery within their limits?

I personally know that this has not been left undone because it was unthought of. It was frequently spoken of by members of Congress, and by citizens of Washington, six years ago; and I heard no one express a doubt that a system of gradual emancipation, with compensation to owners, would meet the approbation of

a large majority of the white people of the District. But without the action of Congress they could say nothing; and Congress said "No." In the measures of 1850, Congress had the subject of slavery in the District expressly on hand. If they were then establishing the *principle* of allowing the people to do as they please with slavery, why did they not apply the *principle* to that people?

Again, it is claimed that by the Resolutions of the Illinois Legislature, passed in 1851, the repeal of the Missouri Compromise was demanded. This I deny also. Whatever may be worked out by a criticism of the language of those resolutions, the people have never understood them as being any more than an indorsement of the Compromises of 1850; and a release of our Senators from voting for the Wilmot Proviso. The whole people are living witnesses, that this only was their view. Finally, it is asked, "If we did not mean to apply the Utah and New Mexico provision to all future territories, what did we mean when we, in 1852, indorsed the Compromises of 1850?"

For myself, I can answer this question most easily. I meant not to ask a repeal or modification of the fugitive slave law. I meant not to ask for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia. I meant not to resist the admission of Utah and New Mexico, even should they ask to come in as slave states. I meant nothing about additional territories, because, as I understood, we then had no territory whose character as to slavery was not already settled. As to Nebraska, I regarded its character as being fixed, by the Missouri Compromise, for thirty years—as unalterably fixed as that of my own home in Illinois. As to new acquisitions, I said: "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." When we make new acquisitions, we will, as heretofore, try to manage them somehow. That is my answer; that is what I meant and said; and I appeal to the people to say each for himself, whether that was not also the universal meaning of the free states.

I now come to consider whether the repeal, with its avowed principles, is intrinsically right. I insist that it is not. Take the particular case. A controversy had arisen between the advocates and opponents of slavery, in relation to its establishment within the country we had purchased of France. The southern, and then best part of the purchase, was already in as a slave state. The controversy was settled by also letting Missouri in as a slave

state; but with the agreement that within all the remaining part of the purchase, north of a certain line, there should never be slavery. As to what was to be done with the remaining part south of the line nothing was said; but perhaps the fair implication was, that it should come in with slavery, if it should so choose. The southern part, except a portion heretofore mentioned, afterward did come in with slavery, as the State of Arkansas. All these many years, since 1820, the northern part had remained a wilderness. At length, settlements began in it also. In due course, Iowa came in as a free state, and Minnesota was given a territorial government, without removing the slavery restriction. Finally, the sole remaining part, north of the line—Kansas and Nebraska—was to be organized; and it is proposed, and carried, to blot out the old dividing line of thirty-four years' standing, and to open the whole of that country to the introduction of slavery. Now this, to my mind, is manifestly unjust. After an angry and dangerous controversy, the parties made friends by dividing the bone of contention. The one party first appropriates her own share, beyond all power to be disturbed in the possession of it, and then seizes the share of the other party. It is as if two starving men had divided their only loaf; the one had hastily swallowed his half, and then grabbed the other's half just as he was putting it to his mouth.

Let me here drop the main argument, to notice what I consider rather an inferior matter. It is argued that slavery will not go to Kansas and Nebraska, *in any event*. This is a *palliation*—a *lullaby*. I have some hope that it will not; but let us not be too confident. As to climate, a glance at the map shows that there are five slave states—Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, and Missouri, and also the District of Columbia, all north of the Missouri Compromise line. The census returns of 1850, show that, within these, there are eight hundred and sixty-seven thousand, two hundred and seventy-six slaves—being more than one-fourth of all the slaves in the nation.

It is not climate, then, that will keep slavery out of these territories. Is there anything in the peculiar nature of the country? Missouri adjoins these territories by her entire western boundary, and slavery is already within every one of her western counties. I have even heard it said that there are more slaves in proportion

to whites in the northwestern county of Missouri, than within any other county in the state. Slavery pressed entirely up to the old western boundary of the state, and when, rather recently, a part of that boundary at the northwest was moved out a little farther west, slavery followed on quite up to the new line. Now when the restriction is removed, what is to prevent it from going still farther? Climate will not—no peculiarity of the country will—nothing in *nature* will. Will the disposition of the people prevent it? Those nearest the scene are all in favor of the extension. The Yankees, who are opposed to it, may be most numerous; but, in military phrase, the battle-field is too far from their base of operations.

But it is said, there now is no law in Nebraska on the subject of slavery, and that, in such case, taking a slave there operates his freedom. That *is* good book law, but is not the rule of actual practice. Wherever slavery is it has been first introduced without law. The oldest laws we find concerning it, are not laws introducing it, but *regulating* it as an already existing thing. A white man takes his slave to Nebraska now. Who will inform the negro that he is free? Who will take him before court to test the question of his freedom? In ignorance of his legal emancipation, he is kept chopping, splitting, and plowing. Others are brought and move on in the same track. At last, if ever the time for voting comes on the question of slavery, the institution already, in fact, exists in the country, and can not well be removed. The fact of its presence, and the difficulty of its removal, will carry the vote in its favor. Keep it out until a vote is taken, and a vote in favor of it can not be got in any population of forty thousand on earth, who have been drawn together by the ordinary motives of emigration and settlement. To get slaves into the territory simultaneously with the whites, in the incipient stages of settlement, is the precise stake played for, and won, in this Nebraska measure.

The question is asked us: "If slaves will go in, notwithstanding the general principle of law liberates them, why would they not equally go in against positive statute law—go in, even if the Missouri restriction were maintained?" I answer, because it takes a much bolder man to venture in with his property in the latter case than in the former; because the positive Congressional enactment is known to, and respected by all, or nearly all; whereas the nega-

tive principle that *no* law is free law, is not much known except among lawyers. We have some experience of this practical difference. In spite of the ordinance of '87, a few negroes were brought into Illinois, and held in a state of *quasi* slavery, not enough, however, to carry a vote of the people in favor of the institution, when they came to form a Constitution. But, in the adjoining Missouri country, where there was no ordinance of '87—was no restriction—they were carried ten times, nay, a hundred times, as fast, and actually made a slave state. This is fact—naked fact.

Another specious argument is, that taking slaves to new countries does not increase their number—does not make any one slave who otherwise would be free. There is some truth in this, and I am glad of it; but it is not *wholly* true. The African slave-trade is not yet effectually suppressed; and if we make a reasonable deduction for the white people among us who are foreigners, and the descendants of foreigners, arriving here since 1808, we shall find the increase of the black population outrunning that of the white, to an extent unaccountable, except by supposing that some of them, too, have been coming from Africa. If this be so, the opening of new countries to the institution increases the demand for, and augments the price of slaves, and so does, in fact, make slaves of freemen, by causing them to be brought from Africa and sold into bondage.

But however this may be, we know the opening of new countries to slavery tends to the perpetuation of the institution, and so does keep men in slavery who would otherwise be free. This result we do not *FEEL* like favoring, and we are under no legal obligation to suppress our feelings in this respect.

Equal justice to the South, it is said, requires us to consent to the extension of slavery to new countries. That is to say, inasmuch as you do not object to my taking my hog to Nebraska, therefore I must not object to you taking your slave. Now, I admit that this is perfectly logical, if there is no difference between hogs and negroes. But while you thus require me to deny the humanity of the negro, I wish to ask whether you of the South, yourselves, have ever been willing to do as much? It is kindly provided, that of all those who come into the world, only a small percentage are natural tyrants. That percentage is no larger in the slave states

than in the free. The great majority South, as well as North, have human sympathies, of which they can no more divest themselves, than they can of their sensibility to physical pain. These sympathies in the bosoms of the Southern people manifest, in many ways, their sense of the wrong of slavery, and their consciousness that, after all, there is humanity in the negro. If they deny this, let me address them a few plain questions. In 1820, you joined the North, almost unanimously, in declaring the African slave-trade piracy, and in annexing to it the punishment of death. Why did you do this? If you did not feel that it was wrong, why did you join in providing that men should be hung for it? The practice was no more than bringing wild negroes from Africa to sell to such as would buy them. But you never thought of hanging men for catching and selling wild horses, wild buffaloes, or wild bears.

Again: they have the "SLAVE-DEALER." He watches your necessities, and seeks to buy your slave, at a low price. If you can not help it, you sell to him; but if you can help it, you drive him from your door. You despise him. You do not recognize him. Your children don't play with his; they may play freely with darkies, but not with the "slave-dealer's" children. If you are obliged to deal with him, you try to get through the job, without so much as touching him. It is common with you to join hands with the men you meet; but with the slave-dealer you avoid the ceremony—instantively shrinking from the contact.

Mr. Graham:—I am a Kentuckian, and I wouldn't shake hands with him.

Mr. Lincoln:—I, too, am a Kentuckian, and I certainly wouldn't do it.

If he grows rich and retires from business, you still remember him, and still keep up the ban of non-intercourse with him and his family. Now, why is this? You do not so treat the man who deals in corn, cattle, or tobacco.

And yet again: There are in the United States and territories, including the District of Columbia, 433,643 free blacks. At \$500 per head, they are worth over two hundred millions of dollars. How comes this vast amount of property to be running about, without owners? We do not see free horses, or free cattle, running at large. How is this? All these free blacks are the descendants of slaves, or have been slaves themselves; and they would be slaves

now, but for SOMETHING which has operated on their white owners, inducing them at vast pecuniary sacrifices to liberate them. What is that SOMETHING? Is there any mistaking it? In all these cases, it is your sense of justice and human sympathy, continually telling you that the poor negro has some natural right to himself—that those who deny it, and make mere merchandise of him, deserve kickings, contempt, and death.

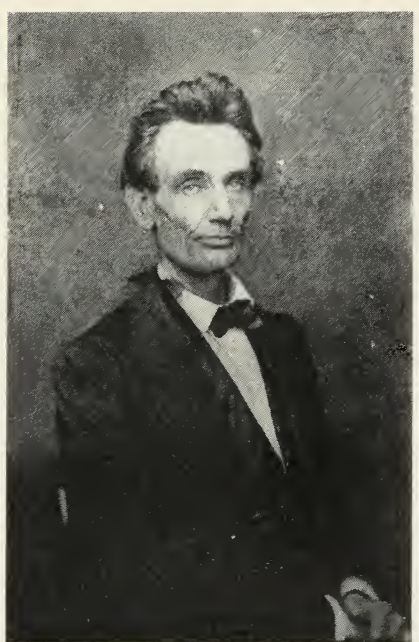
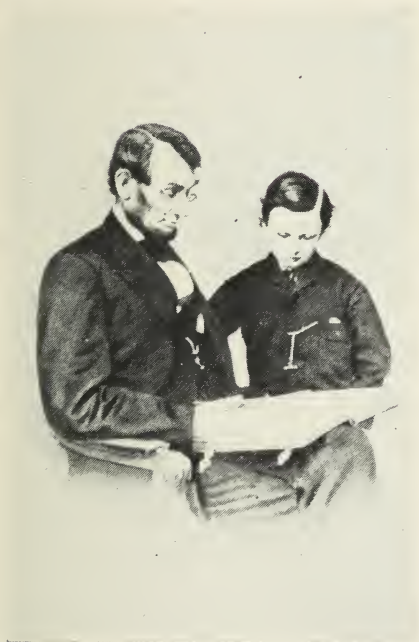
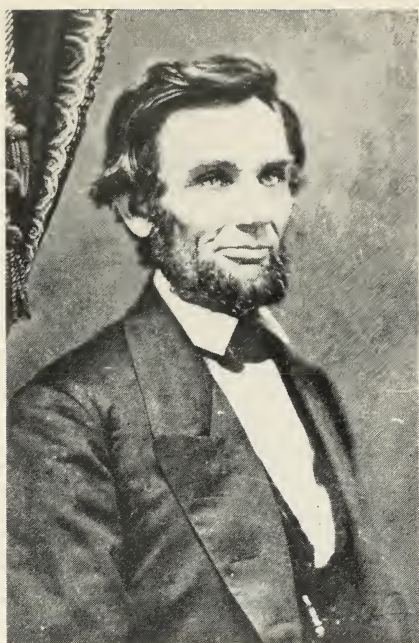
And now, why will you ask us to deny the humanity of the slave, and estimate him as only the equal of the hog? Why ask us to do what you will not do yourself? Why ask us to do for *nothing* what two hundred millions of dollars could not induce you to do?

But one great argument in the support of the repeal of the Missouri Compromise is still to come. That argument is “the sacred right of self-government.”

I trust I understand and truly estimate the right of self-government. My faith in the proposition that each man should do precisely as he pleases with all which is exclusively his own, lies at the foundation of the sense of justice there is in me. I extend the principle to communities of men, as well as to individuals. I so extend it, because it is politically wise, as well as naturally just; politically wise in saving us from broils about matters which do not concern us. Here, or at Washington, I would not trouble myself with the oyster laws of Virginia, or the cranberry laws of Indiana.

The doctrine of self-government is correct, but it has no just application. I should rather say, that whether it has such just application, depends upon whether the negro is, or is not, a man. If he is not a man, in that case he who is a man, may, as a matter of self-government, do just what he pleases with him. But if the negro is a man, is it not, to that extent, a total destruction of self-government to say, that he, too, shall not govern himself? When the white man governs himself, that is self-government; but when he governs himself, and also governs another man, that is more than self-government—that is despotism. If the negro is a *man*, why, then, my ancient faith teaches me that “all men are created equal;” and that there can be no moral right in connection with one man’s making a slave of another.

The Nebraskaites, frequently, paraphrases our argument by



(From the Collection of Frederick Hill Meserve)

saying: "The white people of Nebraska are good enough to govern themselves, *but they are not good enough to govern a few miserable negroes!*"

Well, I doubt not that the people of Nebraska are, and will continue to be, as good as the average of people elsewhere. I do not say the contrary. What I do say is, that no man is good enough to govern another man, *without that other's consent*. I say this is the leading principle, the sheet-anchor of American Republicanism. Our Declaration of Independence says:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, DERIVING THEIR JUST POWERS FROM THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED."

I have quoted so much at this time merely to show that, according to our ancient faith, the just powers of governments are derived from the consent of the governed. Now, the relation of master and slave is *pro tanto* a total violation of their principle. The master not only governs the slave without his consent, but he governs him by a set of rules altogether different from those which he prescribes for himself. Allow ALL the governed an equal voice in the government; and that, and that only, is self-government.

Let it not be said I am contending for the establishment of political and social equality between the whites and blacks. I have already said the contrary. I am not now combating the argument of NECESSITY, arising from the fact that the blacks are already among us; but I am combating what is set up as MORAL argument for allowing them to be taken where they have never yet been—arguing against the extension of a bad thing, which, where it already exists, we must of necessity manage as we best can.

Again, is not Nebraska, while a territory, a part of us? Do we not own the country? And if we surrender the control of it, do we not surrender the right of self-government? It is part of ourselves. If you say we shall not control it, because it is ONLY part, the same is true of every other part; and when all the parts are gone, what has become of the whole? What is then left of us? What use for the General Government, when there is nothing left for it to govern?

But you say this question should be left to the people of Nebraska, because they are more particularly interested. If this be the rule, you must leave it to each individual to say for himself whether he will have slaves. What better moral right have thirty-one citizens of Nebraska to say, that the thirty-second shall not hold slaves, than the people of the thirty-one states have to say that slavery shall not go into the thirty-second state at all?

But if it is a sacred right for the people of Nebraska to take and hold slaves there, it is equally their sacred right to buy them where they can buy them cheapest; and that, undoubtedly, will be on the coast of Africa, provided you will consent not to hang them for going there to buy them. You must remove this restriction, too, from the sacred right of self-government. I am aware, you say, that taking slaves from the States to Nebraska, does not make slaves of freemen; but the African slave-trader can say just as much. He does not catch free negroes and bring them here. He finds them already slaves in the hands of their black captors, and he honestly buys them at the rate of about a red cotton handkerchief a head. This is very cheap and it is a great abridgment of the sacred right of self-government to hang men for engaging in this profitable trade.

Another important objection to this application of the right of self-government, is, that it enables the first FEW to deprive the succeeding MANY of a free exercise of the right of self-government. The first few may get slavery IN, and the subsequent many can not easily get it OUT. How common is the remark now in the slave states: "If we were only clear of our slaves, how much better it would be for us." They are actually deprived of the privilege of governing themselves as they would, by the action of a very few in the beginning. The same thing was true of the whole nation at the time our Constitution was formed.

Whether slavery shall go into Nebraska, or other new territories, is not a matter of exclusive concern to the people who may go there. The whole nation is interested that the best use shall be made of these territories. We want them for the homes of free white people. This they can not be, to any considerable extent, if slavery shall be planted within them. Slave states are places for poor white people to remove FROM; not to remove TO. New free

states are the places for poor people to go to, and better their condition. For this use the nation needs these territories.

Still further; there are constitutional relations between the slave and free states, which are degrading to the latter. We are under legal obligations to catch and return their runaway slaves to them, a sort of dirty, disagreeable job which I believe, as a general rule, the slaveholders will not perform for one another. Then again, in the control of the government—the management of the partnership affairs—they have greatly the advantage of us. By the Constitution each state has two Senators—each has a number of representatives in proportion to the number of its people, and each has a number of presidential electors, equal to the whole number of its representatives and senators together. But in ascertaining the number of the people for this purpose, five slaves are counted as being equal to three whites. The slaves do not vote; they are only counted and so used, as to swell the influence of the white people's votes. The practical effect of this is more aptly shown by a comparison of the states of South Carolina and Maine. South Carolina has six representatives, and so has Maine; South Carolina has eight presidential electors, and so has Maine. This is precise equality so far; and, of course they are equal in Senators, each having two. Thus, in the control of the government, they are equals precisely. But how are they in the number of their white people? Maine has 581,813, and South Carolina has 274,567. Maine has twice as many as South Carolina, and 32,679 over. Thus, each white man in South Carolina is more than double of any man in Maine. This all because South Carolina, besides her free people, has 387,984 slaves. The South Carolinian has precisely the same advantage over the white man in every other free state, as well as in Maine. He is more than the double of any one of us. The same advantage, though not to the same extent, is held by all citizens of the slave states over those of the free, and it is an absolute truth, without any exception, that there is no voter in any slave state but who has more legal power in the government than any voter in any free state. There is no instance of exact equality; but the advantage is against us all the time. This principle, in the aggregate, gives the slave states in the present Congress twenty additional representatives, being

seven more than the whole majority by which they passed the Nebraska bill.

Now all this is manifestly unfair, yet I do not mention it to complain of it, in so far as it is already settled. It is in the Constitution, and I do not for that cause, or any other cause, propose to destroy, alter or disregard the Constitution. I stand to it fairly, fully and firmly. But when I am told that I must leave it altogether to other people to say whether new partners are to be bred up and brought into the firm on the same degrading terms against me, I respectfully demur. I insist that whether I shall be a whole man or only the half of one in comparison with others, is a question in which I am somewhat concerned, and one which no other man can have a sacred right of deciding for me. If I am wrong in this—if it really be a sacred right of self-government in the man who shall go to Nebraska to decide whether he will be the equal of me or the double of me; then, after he shall have exercised that right, and shall thereby have reduced me to a still smaller fraction of a man than I am already, I should like for some gentleman deeply skilled in the mystery of sacred rights, to provide himself with a microscope and peep about and find out, if he can, what has become of my sacred rights. They will surely be too small for detection by the naked eye.

Finally, I insist that if there is anything that it is the duty of the whole people to never entrust to any hands but their own, that thing is the preservation and perpetuity of their own liberties and institutions. And if they shall think as I do, that the extension of slavery endangers them more than any or all other causes, how recreant to themselves if they submit the question, and with it the fate of their country, to a mere handful of men bent only on temporary self-interest. But Nebraska is urged as a great Union-saving measure. Well, I go, too, for saving the Union. Much as I hate slavery, I would consent to the extension of it rather than to see the Union dissolved, just as I would consent to any great evil to prevent a greater one. But when I go to Union-saving I must believe, at least, that the means I employ have adaptation to the end. To my mind this bill has no such adaptation. It is an aggravation, rather, of the only one thing that really endangers the Union. When it came upon us, all was peace and quiet. The nation was looking to the forming of new bonds of union, and a

long course of peace and prosperity seemed open before us. In the whole range of possibility, there scarcely appears to me to have been anything out of which the slavery agitation could have been revived, except the project of repealing the Missouri Compromise. Every inch of territory we owned already had a definite settlement of the slavery question, and by which all parties were pledged to abide. Indeed, there was no uninhabited country on the continent which we could acquire, if we except some extreme northern regions which are wholly out of the question. In this state of the case, the Genius of Discord himself could scarcely have invented a way of getting us by the ears, but by turning back and destroying the peace measures of the past. The councils of that Genius seem to have prevailed; the Missouri Compromise was repealed; and here we are, in the midst of a new slavery agitation, such, I think, as we have never seen before. Who is responsible for this? Is it those who resist the measure; or those who, causelessly, brought it forward, and pressed it through, having reason to know, and, in fact, knowing it must and would be so resisted? It could not but be expected by its author, that it would be looked upon as a measure for the extension of slavery, aggravated by a gross breach of faith.

A Voice—Why hain't they a right to decide for themselves if they want slavery or not?

Mr. Lincoln—Hain't *who* a right?

A Voice—The settlers out there.

Mr. Lincoln—Because, in the first place, the Congress, representing the *whole* people of the nation, have the power and responsibility under the Constitution of making all needful rules and regulations touching the territories; second, because, in exchange for the privilege of establishing slavery in Missouri, freedom was guaranteed to this territory by both law and honor; thirdly, because any way the first few settlers should not be allowed to fix the fate of the institutions of that region for all time; and other reasons which you will see if you will pay attention to what I am saying.

Argue as you will, and long as you will, this is the naked FRONT and ASPECT of the measure. And in this aspect, it could not but produce agitation. Slavery is founded in the selfishness of man's nature—opposition to it, in his love of justice. These principles

are in eternal antagonism; and when brought into collision so fiercely as slavery extension brings them, shocks, and throes, and convulsions must ceaselessly follow. Repeal the Missouri Compromise—repeal all compromise—repeal the Declaration of Independence—repeal all past history—you still can not repeal human nature. It still will be in the abundance of man's heart that slavery extension is wrong; and out of the abundance of his heart, his mouth will continue to speak.

The structure, too, of the Nebraska bill is very peculiar. The people are to decide the question of slavery for themselves; but WHEN they are to decide, or HOW they are to decide, or whether, when the question is once decided, it is to remain so, or is to be subject to an indefinite succession of new trials, the law does not say. Is it to be decided by the first dozen settlers who arrive there, or is it to await the arrival of a hundred? Is it to be decided by a vote of the people or a vote of the Legislature; or, indeed, by a vote of any sort? To these questions the law gives no answer. There is a mystery about this: for, when a member proposed to give the Legislature express authority to exclude slavery, it was hooted down by the friends of the bill. This fact is significant. Some Yankees in the East are sending emigrants to Nebraska to exclude slavery from it; and, so far as I can judge, they expect the question to be decided by voting in some way or other. But the Missouri people are awake too. They are within a stone's throw of the contested ground. They hold meetings and pass resolutions, in which not the slightest allusion to voting is made. They resolve that slavery already exists in the territory; that more shall go there, and that they, remaining in Missouri, will protect it; and that abolitionists shall be hung or driven away. Through all this, bowie-knives and six-shooters are plainly seen, but no ballot-box. What is the result of this? Each party within, having numerous and determined backers without, is it not probable that the contest will come to blows and bloodshed? Could there be a more apt invention to bring about a collision and violence on the slavery question? I do not charge that this was so designed by Congress; but if they had formed a ring, and put champions in it to fight it out, the fight would be no more likely to come off than it is now. And if this fight should come off is it likely to take a very

peaceful Union-saving turn? Will not the first drop of blood, so shed, be the knell of the Union?

The Missouri Compromise ought to be restored. We ought to elect a House of Representatives which will vote its restoration. If, by any means, we omit to do this, what follows? Slavery may or may not be established in Nebraska. But whether it be or not, we shall have repudiated—discarded from the councils of the nation—the spirit of compromise; for who, after this, will ever trust in a national compromise? The spirit of mutual concession—that spirit which first gave us the Constitution, and which has thrice saved the Union—we shall have strangled and cast from us for ever. And what shall we have in lieu of it? The South, flushed with triumph and tempted with excesses; the North, betrayed as they believe, brooding over wrong and burning for revenge. One side will provoke, the other resent. The one will taunt, the other defy; one aggresses, the other retaliates. Already a few of the North defy all Constitutional restraints, resist the execution of the fugitive slave law, and even menace the institution of slavery in the states where it exists. Already a few in the South claim the Constitutional right to take to, and hold slaves in, the free states—demand the revival of the slave trade—and demand a treaty with Great Britain, by which fugitive slaves may be reclaimed from Canada. As yet they are but few on either side. It is a grave question for the lovers of the Union, whether the final destruction of the Missouri Compromise, and with it the spirit of all compromise, will or will not embolden and embitter each of these, and fatally increase the number of both.

But restore the compromise and what then? We thereby restore the national faith, the national confidence, the national feeling of brotherhood. We thereby reinstate the spirit of concession and compromise—that spirit which has never failed us in past perils, and which may be safely trusted for all the future. The South ought to join in doing this. The peace of the nation is as dear to them as to us. In memories of the past and hopes of the future, they share as largely as we. It would be, on their part, a great act—great in its spirit, and great in its effect. It would be worth to the nation a hundred years' purchase of peace and prosperity. And what of sacrifice would they make? They only surrender to us what they gave us for a consideration long, long ago; what they

have not now asked for, struggled or cared for; what has been thrust upon them, not less to their own astonishment than to ours.

But it is said, we can not restore it; that though we elect every member of the lower House, the Senate is still against us. It is quite true that, of the Senators who passed the Nebraska bill, a majority of the whole Senate will retain their seats in spite of the elections of this and the next year. But if, at these elections, their several constituencies shall clearly express their will against Nebraska, will these Senators disregard their will? Will they neither obey, nor make room for those who will?

But even if we fail to technically restore the compromise, it is still a great point to carry a popular vote in favor of the restoration. The moral weight of such a vote can not be estimated too highly. The authors of Nebraska are not at all satisfied with the destruction of the compromise—an indorsement of this PRINCIPLE they proclaim to be their great object. With them, Nebraska alone is a small matter—to establish a principle for FUTURE USE is what they particularly desire.

That future use is to be the planting of slavery wherever in the wide world, local and unorganized opposition can not prevent it. Now, if you wish to give them this indorsement, if you wish to establish this principle, do so. I shall regret it, but it is your right. On the contrary, if you are opposed to the principle—intend to give it no such indorsement—let no wheedling, no sophistry divert you from throwing a direct vote against it.

Some men, mostly Whigs, who condemn the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, nevertheless hesitate to go for its restoration, lest they be thrown in company with the Abolitionists. Will they allow me, as an old Whig, to tell them, good-humoredly, that I think this is very silly? Stand with anybody that stands RIGHT. Stand with him while he is right, and PART with him when he goes wrong. Stand WITH the Abolitionist in restoring the Missouri Compromise, and stand AGAINST him when he attempts to repeal the fugitive slave law. In the latter case you stand with the Southern disunionist. What of that? you are still right. In both cases you are right. In both cases you oppose the dangerous extremes. In both you stand on middle ground, and hold the ship level and steady. In both you are national, and nothing less than national. This is the good old Whig ground. To desert such ground because

of any company, is to be less than a Whig—less than a man—less than an American.

I particularly object to the NEW position which the avowed principle of this Nebraska law gives to slavery in the body politic. I object to it because it assumes that there CAN be MORAL RIGHT, in the enslaving of one man by another. I object to it as a dangerous dalliance for a free people—a sad evidence that, feeling prosperity, we forget right—that liberty, as a principle, we have ceased to revere. I object to it, because the fathers of the republic eschewed and rejected it. The argument of “necessity,” was the only argument they ever admitted in favor of slavery; and so far, and so far only, as it carried them, did they ever go. They found the institution existing among us, which they could not help, and they cast blame upon the British king for having permitted its introduction. Before the Constitution, they prohibited its introduction into the Northwestern Territory, the only country we owned, then free from it. At the framing and adoption of the Constitution they forebore to so much as mention the word “slave,” or “slavery,” in the whole instrument. In the provision for the recovery of fugitives, the slave is spoken of as a “person held to service or labor.” In the prohibiting the abolition of the African slave trade for twenty years, that trade is spoken of as “The migration or importation of such persons as any of the states now existing shall think proper to admit,” etc. These are the only provisions alluding to slavery. Thus the thing is hid away in the Constitution, just as an afflicted man hides away a wen or cancer which he dares not cut out at once, lest he bleed to death; with the promise, nevertheless, that the cutting may begin at the end of a certain time. Less than this our fathers could not do; and more they would not do. Necessity drove them so far, and farther they would not go. But this is not all. The earliest Congress under the Constitution took the same view of slavery. They hedged and hemmed it into the narrowest limits of necessity.

In 1794, they prohibited an out-going slave trade—that is, the taking of slaves from the United States to sell.

In 1798 they prohibited the bringing of slaves from Africa into the Mississippi Territory—this territory then comprising what are now the states of Mississippi and Alabama. This was

ten years before they had the authority to do the same thing as to the states existing at the adoption of the Constitution.

In 1800 they prohibited American citizens from trading in slaves between foreign countries, as, for instance, from Africa to Brazil.

In 1803 they passed a law in aid of one or two slave state laws in restraint of the internal slave trade.

In 1807, in apparent hot haste, they passed the law nearly a year in advance, to take effect the first day of 1808, the very first day the Constitution would permit—prohibiting the African slave trade, by heavy pecuniary and corporal penalties.

In 1820, finding these provisions ineffectual, they declared the slave-trade piracy, and annexed to it the extreme penalty of death. While all this was passing in the General Government, five or six of the original slave states had adopted systems of gradual emancipation; by which the institution is rapidly becoming extinct within these limits.

Thus we see the plain, unmistakable spirit of that age toward slavery, was hostility to the principle, and tolerated only by necessity.

But now it is to be transformed into a "sacred right." Nebraska brings it forth, places it on the high road to extension and perpetuity; and with a pat on its back, says to it, "Go, and God speed you." Henceforth it is to be the chief jewel of the nation—the very figure-head of the ship of state. Little by little, but steadily as man's march to the grave, we have been giving up the old, for the new faith. Nearly eighty years ago we began by declaring that all men are created equal; but now from that beginning we have run down to the other declaration, that for some men to enslave others is a "sacred right of self-government." These principles can not stand together. They are opposite as God and Mammon, and whoever holds to the one must despise the other. When Pettit, in connection with his support of the Nebraska bill, called the Declaration of Independence "a self-evident lie" (and Choate termed it "a string of glittering generalities"), he only did what consistency and candor required all other Nebraska men to do. Of the forty odd Nebraska senators who sat present and heard him, no one rebuked him. Nor am I apprised that any Nebraska newspaper, or any Nebraska orator, in the whole nation,

has ever yet rebuked him. If this had been said among Marion's men, Southerners though they were, what would have become of the man who said it? If this had been said to the men who captured André, the man who said it would probably have been hung sooner than André was. If it had been said in old Independence Hall, seventy-eight years ago, the very door-keeper would have thrust him into the street.

Be not deceived. The spirit of the Revolution and the spirit of Nebraska are antipodes; and the former is being rapidly displaced by the latter.

Shall we make no effort to arrest this? Already the liberal party throughout the world express the apprehension "that the one retrograde institution in America is undermining the principles of progress, and fatally violating the noblest political system the world ever saw." This is not the taunt of enemies, but the warning of friends. Is it quite safe to disregard it—to disparage it? Is there no danger to liberty itself in discarding the earliest practice, and first precept of our ancient faith? IN OUR GREEDY HASTE TO MAKE PROFIT OF THE NEGRO, LET US BEWARE LEST WE CANCEL AND REND IN PIECES EVEN THE WHITE MAN'S CHARTER OF FREEDOM.

Our republican robe is soiled and trailed in the dust. Let us repurify it. Let us turn it and wash it white, in the spirit, if not in the blood of the Revolution. Let us turn slavery from its claims of "moral right" back upon its existing legal rights and its arguments of "necessity." Let us restore it to the position our fathers gave it, and then let it rest in peace. Let us re-adopt the Declaration of Independence and the practices and policy which harmonize with it. Let North and South, let all Americans, let all lovers of liberty everywhere, join in the great and good work. If we do this we shall not only have saved the Union, but we shall have so saved it as to make and to keep it forever worth the saving. We shall have so saved it, that the succeeding millions of free, happy people, the world over, shall rise up and call us blessed, to the latest generations.

Naples, Ill., November 1, 1854.

DEAR YATES:

I am on my way to Quincy to speak for our old friend Archie Williams. On my way down I heard at Jacksonville a story which

may harm you if not averted—namely, that you have been a Know-Nothing. I suggest that you get a denial—something like the inclosed draft which I have made—into the hands of a safe man in each precinct.

The day before election will do.

Yours, as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Clinton, DeWitt Co., Nov. 11, 1854.

J. HARDING, Esq.

My dear Sir:

I have a suspicion that a Whig has been elected to the Legislature from Edgar. If this is not so, why then "nix cum arous," but if it is so then could you not make a mark with him for me for U. S. Senator? I really have some chance.

Yours etc

A. LINCOLN.

To the Honorable the Judge of the Vermilion Circuit Court in Chancery sitting—

Humbly complaining sheweth unto your Honor, your oratrix, Eleanor Smith, that she is the widow of the late Joseph Smith, now deceased; that said Joseph Smith departed this life on or about the 21st day of January, 1854; that on or about the 22nd day of October 1853, said Joseph Smith made and executed his last Will and testament; that after the death of said Joseph, said Will was duly proven in the County Court of Vermilion County, and the executorship thereof duly entered upon; that in and by said Will, it is, among other things provided as follows, to wit:

"And it is my wish that the three hundred dollar notes given me by Thomas Owen, the first to be paid at Christmas eighteen hundred and fiftythree, the second at Christmas eighteen hundred and fiftyfour, the third to be paid at Christmas eighteen hundred and fiftyfive, those several sums, so soon as paid, to be put to interest, and the interest to be paid annually to my wife Eleanor, for her own use, so long as she remains my widow."

Your oratrix further states that after the making of said Will, and before the death of said Joseph Smith, the first of said notes, was paid to said Joseph Smith; that of the money so received, the

said Joseph used one hundred dollars, and reloaned the remaining two hundred dollars to one George Medsker, taking his note therefore— Your oratrix further states that in and by said Will, Septimus Smith, Edwin Giles Smith, and Reuben Partlow, were nominated, executors thereof; that the said Edwin Giles Smith having since departed this life, and the said Reuben Partlow having never qualified, as executor, the said Septimus Smith is now the sole acting executor of said Will— Your oratrix further states that said acting executor, assuming that by the payment of the first note to the testator in his lifetime, the whole provision of the Will, as to that three hundred dollars, lapsed, or was revoked, refuses to pay your oratrix any interest on said three hundred dollars, or on any part of it; or to do any thing whatever for her, in relation to said three hundred dollars— Your oratrix herewith files a copy of said Will marked (A) and prays that the same be taken and considered as part hereof—

In tender consideration of all which your oratrix prays that said Septimus Smith be made defendant to this Bill; that the People's writ of Subpœna issue for him; that he answer all and singular the allegations hereof; and that on a final hearing, your Honor will decree the said three hundred dollars, paid to said Joseph Smith in his lifetime as aforesaid, to be a trust fund to be put and kept at interest by said defendant, and the interest thereon to be paid to your oratrix; that out of the general assets of the estate he pay her interest on said three hundred dollars from the date of the death of the testator, up to such time, as such interest has been, or may demur from said specific fund, and will grant such other and further relief as equity may require & as in duty bound &c.

LINCOLN & LAMON, for Complainant—

1. The court instruct the jury:

That the want of bodily strength, in the testator, to write a will, or even to sit up while it was written by another, is no ground for invalidating the Will; the true question being "had he sufficient soundness of *mind* and *memory* to dictate and understand the provision of the Will, at the time it was written and signed—

2. That it is not necessary the testator should have had at the

time of making the Will, sufficient strength of mind and memory to deal and traffick generally with his property; and that if they believe from the whole evidence, the testator, at the time the Will was made, understood the provisions of the Will, and was not forced and constrained into the adoption of them against his free consent; and also had sufficient strength of memory, to recollect all his children, and all his property with substantial accuracy, they are to find for the Will, so far as concerns the question of soundness of mind and memory.

3. That if they believe from the evidence that the Will is in substantial accordance with, his long and frequently expressed, determination, when his soundness of mind was not questioned, this is evidence tending to prove that his mind and memory were sound when the Will was made.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 21, 1855.

HON. W. H. HENDERSON.

My dear Sir:

The election is over, the session is ended and I am not Senator. I have to content myself with the honor of having been the first choice of a large majority of the fifty-one members who finally made the election. My larger number of friends had to surrender to Trumbull's smaller number, in order to prevent the election of Matteson, which would have been a Douglas victory. I started with 44 votes and T. with 5. It is rather hard for the 44 to have to surrender to the 5 and a less good humored man than I, perhaps, would not have consented to it,—and it would not have been done without my consent. I could not, however, let the whole political result go to smash, on a point merely personal to myself.

Yours etc

A. LINCOLN.

EXPLANATION

In April 1849 I loaned Nathaniel Hay two hundred dollars, for which I took his note at six per cent for first six months and ten per cent afterwards. At the time, he owed me some trifle for fees. Afterwards from time to time I had bricks of him, and once he paid me ten dollars in money. In January or February 1855

we made a turn by which he paid the First Presbyterian Church twelve or fourteen dollars for me. On the 2d of March 1855, we had a settlement including all these things; and as the old note was already nearly covered with former settlements and credits, he took it up, and gave me the note and due-bill herewith filed, the note being for the original principal loaned, and the due-bill for a balance of interest due. After this, in June 1855, he furnished me bricks for the foundation of a fence, amounting to fifteen or sixteen dollars, which I have always considered as having substantially paid the due-bill. In August 1855 he furnished me bricks for the pit of a privy, for which he or his estate is entitled to a credit on the note. The exact amount of this last lot of bricks, I never knew, but I suppose the administrator can find it on Mr. Hay's books.

A. LINCOLN.
June 9, 1857.

\$200.00

Springfield, March 2, 1855.

On the ninth day of April next I promise to pay A. Lincoln two hundred dollars with ten per cent interest after due until paid, for value received.

N. HAY.

Springfield, March 2, 1855.

Due A. Lincoln sixteen dollars and eighty cents for value received.

N. HAY.

Springfield Ill., March 11, 1855.

A. L. BREWER, Esq.,

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 8th is just received. It has all the while been understood that the estate of Blackledge is solvent & that the Kelly claim is good. After I sent back to you & got the authentication of record corrected, I commenced a suit in the circuit court; and about that time Blackledge died. The case is not in the county of my —; so that I am only there at the terms of the circuit court. At the first term after B's death, my partner, who was attending court in that county that term dismissed the suit and filed the record in the Probate Court as a claim against the estate.

This we both thought was the best way of doing. Last fall I turned out of my way to come by that county to see after the claim; and was surprised to be told that the claim had not been allowed or acted on.

On the 2nd of April court takes me there again, when I shall give special attention to the matter.

Yours &c,

A. LINCOLN.

Received May 11, 1855, of Benjamin Kellogg Jr. fifty dollars in full balance of all fees, up to this date, and also one dollar and a quarter, to be applied on the next fee.

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Illinois, May 14, 1855

W. F. Boggs, Esq.

Kingston, Mo.

Although my Christian name is *Abraham* and not *Edward*, the within letter is evidently intended for me. Whether I ever gave Mr. Barnett a discharge I cannot remember; nor do I know whether it would now be proper for me to give him one, not having or knowing where to find any of the old rolls or papers of my company. I do very well remember, however, that Clardy Barnett, a small man, with a scar on his face, and not far from my own age, which is now 46, did serve more than fourteen days (near forty I think) in this Company of which I had the command as Captain, in Col. — Thompson's Regiment of Mounted Volunteers, in the Black Hawk War of 1832—and that he was entitled to an honorable discharge. We went from Sangamon County, Illinois; and Samuel Whiteside of Madison County, Illinois, was our Brigadier General.

Yours etc.

A. LINCOLN.

Chicago, July 10—1855.

MR. CHARLES HOYT

My dear Sir:

The U. S. Court is in session here now; and we have succeeded, by agreement with Edwards, in getting your case, and the three-



President Lincoln, General McClellan and John W. Garrett. Photograph
Taken by Brady After the Battle of Antietam
(In the Possession of the New York Historical Society)

Rock-Island cases, dismissed, with leave to the plaintiff to reinstate them by the next term, if he desires— Edwards says he has heard nothing from Parker, or Cushman, or any of their men, since their case was disposed of in the Supreme Court, now more than a year ago— Judge McLean says Parker is broken up, and seems to be doing nothing further about his cases— From all this, I suppose the cases are not very likely to be reinstated.

Your friend, as ever

A. LINCOLN—

P.S. It would perhaps be best to make no movement about costs till after next term, lest this should stir them up to re-instate the cases.

A. L.

Springfield, July 27, 1855

C. BALLANER, Esq.

Dear Sir:

Your letters of the 23rd & 24th, the first having nothing, and the other \$20 in it, are both received— Money is always acceptable to me; but when I left Chicago, I was not in "*extremis*" on that subject.

Browning had written me that the court was hung in our Hall case—

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, August 31, 1855.

MRS. MARIA L. BULLOCK:

Dear Aunt:

The following is a correct statement of your business, so far as I have transacted it for you— The land out of town I had surveyed into separate parcels; and on June 23, 1855 had it sold at public auction for sums amounting in the aggregate to \$1427-92¼ cents—

On the 25th of June, I received of the purchasers in cash, two sums, together amounting to \$143.68— On the same day you deeded to one of the purchasers, John Connelly, Senr. one parcel of the land; and I took from him his two notes with personal security, together amounting to \$377—payable in one and two

years, with six per cent interest from date; and also his mortgage on the parcel of land—

On the same day you deeded to Nathaniel Hay the other three parcels of the land; and I took from him his two notes, with personal security, together amounting to \$907-14 cents; payable in one and two years, with interest from date, at six per cent; and also took his mortgage on the premises—

Of the \$143.68, cash received by me, I paid out for taking acknowledgements of deeds & mortgages, for advertising notice of sale in newspaper, printing notice bills thereof; to Auctioneers; for recording mortgages, and to Surveyor & hands, the aggregate sum of \$42.70— And on the 27th of June 1855, I delivered to you a certificate of deposits made at Clark's Exchange Bank for \$101.00—

The land in town, in connection with some land owned by Elijah Iles, he and I had surveyed into town lots; and a Plat made and filed for record, as Bullock's Addition to the City of Springfield—

On the 18th of August 1855, I had your part of the lots sold at public auction, for various sums, amounting in the aggregate (sic) to \$990. Soon after, I received of the purchasers various sums in cash, amounting in the aggregate to \$197— On the 20th day of August 1855, I took from John Cook his two notes, together amounting to \$468—payable in one and two years, with six per cent interest from date; and I took no mortgage from him—and you, on the same day deeded him his lots—

On the same day you deeded Patrick Keiley his lots; and I took of him his two notes, together amounting to \$153, payable in one and two years, with six per cent interest from date, and also his mortgage on his lots—

On the same day you deeded to William S. Viney his lots; and I took his two notes for the aggregate sum of \$162, payable in one and two years, with six per cent interest from date; and also his mortgage on his lots—

On the same day you deeded to Elijah Iles & to the City for him, the lots bid off by him; and I took neither notes or mortgage of him, I deducting ten dollars, and he paying the remainder of his bids, cash down— Of the \$197—cash received by me, I paid out for taking acknowledgements of Plat, deeds & mortgages; for recording same; for advertising & Bills for Sale; to Surveyor &

hands; and to auctioneer, the aggregate sum of \$38.10— Also to Matheny's heirs for quit claim deed, to remove cloud from title \$50— On the 27th of August I handed you the certificate of deposits at Clark's Exchange Bank for \$106.90 cents; and I now hand you \$2.08 cents

Aggregate of Sales		\$2417.92
Amount of notes	\$2067.14	
Deduction to Ills.	10.00	
Expenses	80.80	
Paid Mathenys heirs	50.00	
Paid you	209.98	
		<hr/>
		\$2417.92—

The notes are in my hands, & the mortgages are at the Record-ers office subject to my control— They are all in your name— The taxes of this year I suppose you will have to pay—

Very truly yours

A. LINCOLN.

Of the November Term of the
Sangamon County Circuit
Court— A. D. 1855—

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
SANGAMON COUNTY } ss.

Nancy J. Pea, who sues by her next friend, Abner M. Watson, plaintiff, complains of Greenberry Williams, defendant, being in custody &c. of a plea of trespass on the case on promises—

For that whereas heretofore, to wit, on the day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fiftyfive, at the county aforesaid, in consideration that the said plaintiff being then and there sole and unmarried, at the special instance and request of the said defendant, had then and there undertaken and faithfully promised the said defendant to marry him, the said defendant, when she, the said plaintiff should be thereunto afterwards requested, he the said defendant undertook, and then and there faithfully promised to marry the said plaintiff, when he, the said defendant should be thereunto afterwards requested— And

the said plaintiff avers that she, confiding in the said promise and undertaking of the said defendant, hath always from thence hitherto remained and continued, and still is sole and unmarried, and hath been, from thence, until the marriage of the said defendant with another woman, as hereinafter stated, ready and willing to marry him, the said defendant, to wit, at the county aforesaid, whereof the said defendant hath always there had notice— Yet the said defendant, not regarding his said promise and undertaking, but contriving and intending to deceive and injure her the said plaintiff in this behalf, after the making of his said promise and undertaking, to wit on the first day of October, in the year aforesaid, at the State of Iowa, to wit, at the county of Sangamon aforesaid, wrongfully and injuriously married a certain other person, to wit, one Harriet Baker contrary to his said promise and undertaking so by him made as aforesaid, to wit, at the county aforesaid—

And for that whereas heretofore, to wit, on the day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fiftyfive, at the county aforesaid, in consideration that the said plaintiff being then and there sole and unmarried, at the special instance and request of the said defendant, had then and there undertaken, and faithfully promised the said defendant to marry him the said defendant, on the first day of September then next, he, the said defendant undertook and then and there faithfully promised the said plaintiff to marry her the said plaintiff, on the said first day of September then next— And the said plaintiff avers that she, confiding in the said promise and undertaking of the said defendant on the said first day of September next, after making of the said promise and undertaking of the said defendant, and before, and ever since, up to the time of the marriage of the said defendant with another person as hereinafter stated, to wit, at the county aforesaid, was, and hath been, ready and willing to marry the said defendant, whereof the said defendant, not regarding his said promise and undertaking, but contriving, and fraudulently intending craftily and subtly to deceive and injure her the said plaintiff in this respect, did not, nor would, on the said first day of September next after the making of said promise, or at any time before or afterwards, marry the said plaintiff, but hath hitherto wholly neglected, and still doth neglect so to do;

and afterwards, to wit, on the day of August, in the year aforesaid, at the State of Iowa, to wit at the county of Sangamon aforesaid did marry another person, to wit, one Harriet Baker, and thereby then and there wholly discharged her the said plaintiff from performing her said promise, to wit, at the county aforesaid—

And for that whereas heretofore to wit, on the day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fiftyfive, at the county aforesaid, in consideration that the said plaintiff, being then and there sole and unmarried, at the special instance and request of the said defendant had then and there faithfully promised the said defendant to marry him on the first day of September then next, he the said defendant then and there faithfully promised the said plaintiff to marry her, on the said first day of September then next— And the said plaintiff avers that she confiding in the said promise of the said defendant, on the said first day of September next, after the making of said promise, and before and ever since, up to the time when the said defendant discharged her from her said promise, as hereinafter stated, at the county aforesaid, was and hath been ready and willing to marry the said defendant, whereof he then and there had notice— Yet the said defendant, not regarding his said promise, did not nor would, on said first day of September, next after the making of said promise, or at any time before or afterwards, marry her the said plaintiff; but hath hitherto wholly neglected and still does neglect so to do, and afterwards, to wit, on the day of August, in the year aforesaid wholly declined and refused to marry her the said plaintiff, and wholly discharged her from performing her said promise, to wit at the county aforesaid.

By means of all which, the said plaintiff hath been greatly injured, and hath sustained damage in the sum of two thousand dollars, and therefore she brings her suit &c.

LINCOLN & HERNDON p.q.

Filed Nov. 8, 1855.

Springfield, Dec. 12, 1855.

DEAR SPEED

Yours of the 7th accompanied by the deed of P. S. Loughborough, to Lawrence Young, is this day received; and I answer

in haste to say, that I am engaged for James M. Loughborough, and it might not be consistent with my duty for him, for me to to (sic) attend to the business for Mr. Young— I shall therefore hold the deed subject to your order; suggesting that the land is in Champaign county, and that I think H. C. Whitney, of Urbana, would be a very proper person to entrust the business to—

All well— Kindest regards to Mrs. S.

Your friend, as ever

A. LINCOLN—

The Decatur *Daily Herald* of February 11, 1912, carries a story of a joint debate between Lincoln and Anthony Thornton, a lawyer, later a judge of the Supreme Court of Illinois, in 1856 at Shelbyville, Illinois. Lincoln, in opening the debate, said:

“Fellow citizens: I rarely arise to address my fellow countrymen on any question of importance without experiencing conflicting emotions. I experience such at this hour as I never have experienced before. It is a matter of great regret to me that I have so learned, so able, and so eloquent a man as my friend Anthony here to reply to what I have to say. On the other hand I take some comfort from the fact that there are but sixteen Republicans in Shelby county, and therefore however poorly I may defend my cause I can hardly harm it, if I can do it no good. Anthony and I were always old-line Whigs, and we stumped parts of Illinois and Indiana together in 1844 in advocacy of the election of Henry Clay, the Whig candidate for President. We have always been in substantial agreement on all public questions up to this time, but we have sometimes crossed swords in court, and you know, Anthony, that whenever we have you have always cut me as a file cuts soap.”

The sixteen Shelby county votes grew to 150 in the election a few weeks later.

In the Circuit Court of the
United States of America, in
and for the Southern Dis-
trict of Illinois—

AMBROSE W. DUDLEY	}	<i>In Ejectment—</i>
& ELIZA G. DUDLEY		
vs.		
JOHN P. CROSTHWAIT		

The plaintiffs are hereby notified that on the third day of March, 1856 the defendant will sue out from the office of the Clerk of the Court aforesaid, a Commission, directed to Albert H. Hoyt, of Rockingham County, in the State of New Hampshire, to take the deposition of Laban Kennison, of said county, to be read in evidence on the trial of the above entitled cause; and that the following is a copy of the interrogatories intended to be put to said witness—

1st What is your name, age, and place of residence?

2nd Were you or not a soldier in the war of 1812, between the United States, and Great Britain? and if yea, state what Company and Regiment you served in, the names of your officers, so far as you can remember; when and where you were discharged, and whether or not there was any other person of the same name as yourself, in said Company, or in the town of New-Market, Rockingham County New Hampshire?

3rd State whether or not you ever received any patent for bounty-land from the United States, for your services in said war, and if yea, state what you did with said Patent; and whether you ever sold said land?

4th Look at the paper now shown you purporting to be a deed from yourself to Francis M. Higbee, and state whether the same is genuine, and was made about the time it purports?

5th If you answer in the affirmative to the fourth interrogatory, then state whether you ever conveyed said land by any other instrument, or to any other person?

6th Were you ever acquainted with Isham Talbot, or S. Bayge, or Charles A. Beck?

7th Have you ever or not, written your own name to a deed or other instrument of writing?

8th State any thing further you may know, for the benefit of either party—

LINCOLN & HERNDON, for Deft—

We acknowledge service of the above on this 22, of Jany. 1856.

In the Circuit Court of Sangamon County— March Term, 1856.

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
SANGAMON COUNTY } ss.

Thomas Aspinall, plaintiff, complains of Thomas Lewis, Willis H. Johnson, and John B. Moffett, late doing business under the style and firm name of "Lewis, Johnson & Co" defendants, being in custody &c, of a plea that they render unto the said plaintiff the sum of two thousand dollars, which they owe to, and unjustly detain from him—

For that whereas heretofore to wit, on the ninth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and forty-eight, at St. Louis in the State of Missouri, to wit, at the County of Sangamon and State of Illinois, aforesaid, in consideration of the sale, by the defendants herein, of an interest in a Patent-right, for a claim, Isaac V. W. Dutcher, and Charles K. Bacon, made their certain promissory note in writing, in the words and figures following, to wit:

St. Louis, June 9th 1848 \$1,000—
Twelve months after date we promise to pay to the order of T. B. Dutcher, one thousand dollars, value received, without defalcation or discount

I. V. W. Dutcher
C. K. Bacon

and then and there procured the said T. B. Dutcher to assign said note, by indorsement thereon, in writing, in the words following, to wit:

Pay to Lewis, Johnson & Co, or order,

T. B. Dutcher

and then and there delivered said note, so indorsed, to the said defendants herein— And after the making, assigning, and delivery of said note as aforesaid, and before the payment of the sum of money therein specified, to wit, on the seventeenth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, at St. Louis in the State of Missouri, to wit: at the county of Sangamon, and State of Illinois, aforesaid, the said defendants herein, by their said firm name of “Lewis, Johnson & Co” by their indorsement thereon in writing, in the words following, to wit:

Pay to Thomas Aspinall, or order

Lewis, Johnson & Co

assigned said note, to the said plaintiff herein, and then and there delivered said note, so indorsed, to the said plaintiff herein, for value received.

And after the said note, by its terms, became due and payable, and remaining unpaid, to wit, on the eighteenth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fortynine, at St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, to wit, at the county of Sangamon, and State of Illinois aforesaid, the plaintiff herein, used due diligence, by the institution of a suit at law, against the makers of said note, to the first term, (after said note became due) of the court having jurisdiction, to wit, the St. Louis Court of Common Pleas, in the said State of Missouri, for the recovery of the money in said note specified; and that he thenceforward afterwards, there used due diligence in the prosecution of said suit, for the purpose aforesaid; and that by said court afterwards, to wit, on the ninth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred, and fiftytwo in the suit aforesaid, the said makers of said note, were adjudged not liable to pay the sum of money therein specified, or any part thereof, on the ground of defence that said claim was worthless, together with the fraud and misrepresentations of the defendants herein in the making of sale of the interest in the Patent-right as aforesaid; and then and there ended and determined said suit, and adjudged that the plaintiff herein should pay the costs of said suit—and whereby the said plaintiff herein failed to obtain payment of the sum of money in said note specified, or any part thereof, from the said makers of said note—

And the plaintiff avers that by the laws of the State of Missouri, the aforesaid ground of defence was valid—in law—

And the plaintiff further avers that by force of the premises aforesaid, and by force of the laws of said State of Missouri, an action has accrued to the said plaintiff to have, of and from the said defendants herein, the sum of one thousand dollars parcel of the sum, above demanded—

And for that whereas afterwards to wit, on the ninth day of June in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fortyeight, at St. Louis in the State of Missouri, to wit, at the county of Sangamon, in the State of Illinois, aforesaid, in consideration of the sale, by the defendants herein, of an interest in a Patent-right, for a claim, Isaac V. W. Dutcher, and Charles K. Bacon, made their certain promissory note in writing, in the words and figures following, to wit:

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\$1,000— Twelve months after date we promise to pay to the order of T. B. Dutcher, one thousand dollars, value received, without defalcation, or discount—

I. V. W. Dutcher

C. K. Bacon

and then and there procured the said T. B. Dutcher to assign said note, by indorsement thereon in writing, in the words following to wit:

Pay to Lewis Johnson & Co, or order

T. B. Dutcher

and then and there delivered said note, so indorsed, to the said defendants herein— And after the making, assigning, and delivery of said note as aforesaid, and before the payment of the sum of money therein specified, to wit, on the seventeenth day day (sic) of June, in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and fortyeight, at St. Louis in the State of Missouri, to wit, at the county of Sangamon, and State of Illinois aforesaid, the said defendants herein, by their said firm name of "Lewis Johnson & Co" by their indorsement thereon in writing in the words following, to wit,

Pay to Thomas Aspinall, or order

Lewis, Johnson & Co

assigned said note to the said plaintiff herein, and then and there

delivered said note, so indorsed, to the said plaintiff herein, for value received— And after the said note, by its terms, became due and payable, and remaining unpaid, to wit, on the eighteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and fortynine, at St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, to wit, at the county of Sangamon and State of Illinois aforesaid, the plaintiff herein, used due diligence, by the institution of a suit at law, against the makers of said note, to the first term, (after said note became due) of the court having jurisdiction, to wit, the St. Louis Court of Common Pleas, in the said State of Missouri, for the recovery of the money in said note specified; and that he thenceforward afterwards, there, used due diligence in the prosecution of said suit, for the purpose aforesaid; and that by said court, afterwards, to wit, on the ninth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fiftytwo, in the suit aforesaid, the said makers of said note, were adjudged not liable to pay the sum of money therein specified, or any part thereof, on the ground of defence, that said claim was worthless, together with the fraud and misrepresentations of the defendants herein, in the making sale of the interest in the Patent right, as aforesaid, and then and there ended and determined the suit aforesaid, and adjudged that the plaintiff herein, should pay the costs of said suit, and whereby the said plaintiff herein failed to obtain payment of the sum of money in said note specified, or any part thereof, from the said makers of said note

And the plaintiff avers that by the laws of the State of Missouri, the aforesaid ground of defence was valid in law; and that the same was, and is true in fact—

And the plaintiff further avers that by force of the promises aforesaid, and by force of the laws of the said State of Missouri, an action has accrued to said plaintiff to have of and from the said defendants herein the sum of one thousand dollars, other parcel of the sum above demanded.

And whereas also the said defendants afterwards to wit, on the first day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand and eight hundred and fiftysix, at the county of Sangamon aforesaid, were indebted to the said plaintiff in the further sum of one thousand dollars, for so much money before that time loaned to them, by said plaintiff, and at their special instance and request;

and in the further sum of one thousand dollars, for so much money before that time, by said defendants, had and received to and for the use of said plaintiff; and in the further sum of one thousand dollars, for interest on divers large sums of money before that time loaned and forborne, by the said plaintiff to the said defendants, and at their like special instance and request, all to be paid by the said defendants to the said plaintiff, when the said defendants should be thereunto afterwards requested; whereby an action hath accrued to the said plaintiff to have, of and from said defendants, the further sum of one thousand dollars other parcel of the sum above demanded—

Yet the said defendants (although often requested so to do) have not as yet paid the said sum of money above demanded, or any part thereof to the said plaintiff, or otherwise howsoever; but so to do have hitherto wholly neglected and refused, and still do neglect and refuse— To the damage of the said plaintiff of one thousand, dollars, and therefore he brings his suit.

LINCOLN & HERNDON p.q.

—Note, and indorsements, copied into the first and second counts—

LEWIS, JOHNSON & Co

	To THOMAS ASPINALL DR.	
1856. Jany—1.	To money lent	\$1000
	To money had and received,	"1000
	To interest	"1000

“Can there be any valid pre-emption on sections of land, *alternate* to the Sections granted to the Illinois Central Railroad?”

My opinion is asked on the above question—

“An Act to appropriate the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, and to grant pre-emption rights” Approved Sep. 4, 1841, contains the first *remanent*, or *prospective* pre-emption law— 5 U. S. Stat. at Large 453.

Section ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, and fifteen, of this Act, relate exclusively to pre-emptions— In Section ten it is provided that “no sections of land reserved to the United States *alternate* to other sections granted to any of the States for the construction of any canal, railroad, or other public improvement,

shall be liable to entry under and by virtue of the provisions of this act.”

This act continues to be our general pre-emption law, up to the present time—and, although some supplementary provisions had afterwards been enacted, the above provision, in Section ten, remained untouched up to Sep. 20, 1850, when the Central Railroad grant was made—

The latter act, preserved existing pre-emptions, on the even Sections, granted generally, for the Road; but made no mention of pre-emptions, as to the odd sections reserved to the United States— 9 Stat. at Large 466.

August 2, 1852 “An Act to protect actual Settlers upon the Land on the Line of the Central Railroad and Branches, by granting Pre-emption Rights thereto,” was passed—

By this act, pre-emptions were given on these reserved Sections, to *such* persons as were settlers on them, on Sep. 20, 1850, in such way as to be entitled to the benefit of the Act of Sep. 4, 1841. 10 Stat. at Large 27.

This, it is perceived, limits the right to those who had made actual settlements upon the lands, on the 20th of Sep. 1850—the date of the Central Railroad grant.

March 3, 1853 “An Act to extend Pre-emption Rights to certain lands therein mentioned” was enacted—

By this act the general pre-emption laws are extended to these reserved Sections, with a proviso “That no person shall be entitled to the benefit of this act who has not settled and improved, or shall not settle and improve such lands prior to the final allotment of the alternate sections, to such Railroads by the General Land Office” 10 Stat. at Large 244.

I have examined all the subsequent acts of Congress up to the close of the Session, on March 3, 1855; and I do not discover that the above quoted proviso has even been disturbed—

“An Act for the Relief of Settlers on Lands reserved for Railroad purposes” Approved, March 27, 1854—does not affect the act last aforesaid. 10 Stat. at Large 269—

The final allotment of the alternate sections to the Illinois Central Railroad Company, by the General Land-Office, was made on the 13th day of March, 1852—

It is my opinion that persons who settled on those reserved sections *prior* to the date of said "final allotment" might have value pre-emptions; and that those who settled thereon *after* the date of said allotment, can not—

As to the *mode* of redress, in cases of pre-emptions having been *improperly* allowed by the Register and Receiver, it is more difficult to answer, owing to that matter depending upon the regulations, or special action, of the Departments, and not upon express statutory provisions—

I understand that if a pre-emption be *illegally* allowed by the Register and Receiver, or, even *legally* allowed, but upon *false* or *fraudulent* proof, and forwarded to the General Land Office; the party interested to contest the pre-emption, may address a letter, or petition, to the Commissioner of the General Land-Office, describing the land, stating the facts, and pointing out wherein the illegality or fraud consists, and asking for a rehearing; and that, thereupon, the Commissioner will direct the Register and Receiver to give a re-hearing, upon notice to both pre-emptor, and contestant—

I, therefore, would advise that wherever, on these reserved sections, a settlement and improvement have been made *before* the "allotment" of the General Land Office, to wit before, March 13, 1852—and a claim is now set up, the claim should be contested, on the ground that the right has been lost, by not being followed up with claim, proof, and payment, in *due time*— See Section 15 of the Act of Sep. 4, 1841—

In cases where settlements were made *after* the allotment, contest them on the ground that there never was a right—

The contest to be made in the mode above pointed out— The letter, or petition, to the Commissioner, should, in this class of cases, contain a reference to the aforesaid Acts of Sep. 4, 1841—Sep. 20, 1850—August 2, 1852—March 3, 1853 & March 27, 1854—and particularly to that of March 3, 1853—

Also, if it be intended to assail the proof which the pre-emptor has made, as being *false* or *fraudulent*, it would be better to verify the Petition by affidavit—

March 6, 1856

A. LINCOLN.

CENTRAL R. R. COMPANY }
vs.
 COUNTY OF McLEAN }

Until the expiration of six years, the whole property of the Company, is held in trust for the State; and, as State property, was rightfully exempted from taxation—

In Massachusetts & Pennsylvania, the *necessary* property of Railroads is, in absence of statutory provisions, exempted from taxation, by the courts, on the *ground* that it is *public property*.

American R. W. cases 350-4. Note 1

In Kentucky & Maryland, the *contrary* is held

Same note.

Until the Central-road shall be completed, *it's* property, is *public property*, in a *peculiar* and far superior, *sense*, to which it was in the case of the railroads of Massachusetts and Pennsylvania—Const. Art. 10. S 1. Preamble.

See Charter, Sec. 15—letter clause—

The right of the counties to tax the property is incompatible, with the right secured to the State.

4. Cond. 466-484

6 Cond.

2 Peters 449.

CENTRAL R. R. COMPANY }
vs.
 COUNTY OF McLEAN }

Read the record, and state the question—

Show that, by the Charter, the Co is not liable—

Charter, Secs. 18 & 22, P. 71-2

But was it constitutionally competent for the Legislature to grant the exemption?

As to general power of the Legislature, see

1 Kent 447

3 Scam. 127

As to cases of exemptions, similar to this.

New Jersey	1839—	2. Han.	80
Do.	1840—	3. Do.	11-71
Do.	1845—	1 Zab.	557
Illinois	1843—	4 Scam.	303
Maryland	1848—	6 Gill.	288
Alabama	1848—	14 Ala.	622
Indiana	1851—	3. Ind.	43.
Mississippi	1852—	24 Miss.	386.
S. Carolina	1852.	5 Rich.	561.

The foregoing are all cases of attempts of minor municipal corporations, such as counties, townships, and cities, to tax corporations, such as Railroads and Banks, notwithstanding legislative exemptions, and were all decided in favor of the exemptions—

In none of them, however, was the constitutional competency of the legislatures to grant the exemptions questioned—though it might, perhaps as well have been raised in 4 Scam. 303, & 6 Gill 288, as in this case—

The following are a few cases where special taxes have been directly, or indirectly, imposed by legislative acts, and the constitutional competency *questioned*, and *sustained*—

Virginia,	1837—	8 Leigh	120.
Missouri	1851—	15 Mo.	3
Pennsylvania	1852,	19 Penn.	258
Do	1853,	21 Penn.	147
Kentucky	1852,	13 Ky.	1
Louisiana	1853,	8 Ann.	341
Alabama	1854,	24 Ala.	591

But our *new* Constitution, (which applies to this case) has some provisions, supposed to bear on the case, which are not found in the other constitutions; and herein is the *exact* and *main* question—

Compare Art 8. Sec 20 of Old Constitution, with first clause of Sec 2, Art. 9 of new—in connection with 4, Scam. 303—

Comment on Sec: 3

Comment on Sec. 5

Comment on the last clause of Section 2—

HEAD QUARTERS, 13TH ARMY CORPS,

DEPARTMENT OF THE TENNESSEE,

Oxford, Miss., Dec. 17th, 1862.

GENERAL ORDERS, }

No. 12.

1. The Jews, as a class, violating every regulation of trade established by the Treasury Department, and also Department orders, are hereby expelled from the Department.

2. Within twenty-four hours from the receipt of this order by Post Commanders, they will see that all of this class of people are furnished with passes and required to leave, and any one returning after such notification, will be arrested and held in confinement until an opportunity occurs of sending them out as prisoners unless furnished with permits from these Head Quarters.

3. No permits will be given these people to visit Head Quarters for the purpose of making personal application for trade permits.

BY ORDER OF MAJ. GEN. U. S. GRANT.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,

Assistant Adjutant General.

(OFFICIAL :)

.....
Assistant Adjutant General.

Grant's "Famous" Order to Exclude Jews from Department
of Tennessee

- 2. Harr. 80
- 1. Zab. 557
- 6. Gill 288
- 5. Rich. 561
- 1. Am. R. R. 350
- 21 Maine 533.

If the R. R. Co., are to pay county taxes, notwithstanding the exemption, are they still bound to pay the full tax to the State?

In no doubtful case will the court pronounce a legislative act to be contrary to the constitution—

- 4 Cond. 526-557
- 1. Gilman 672-689.

On the foregoing statement of facts, I should arrange the inhabitants of Beloit, in their contest with Dillingham,—into two classes—those who claim under conveyances from Crane *before* his Patent issued, forming one class; and those claiming under conveyances from him, *after* his Patent; forming another.

In the contest with the latter class, both parties claiming under Crane, neither can dispute his title—

- 2. Greene. Ev. Sec. 307 & cases cited
- 2. Carter (Ia) 123

And the title of the inhabitants being the *elder* is unquestionably the better, unless the deeds are void for *vagueness* of description—

But a deed for land is never void for vagueness of description, when the land can be identified by anything and everything referred to on the face of the deed—

- McQuer vs. Walker, 9 branch 173 (in
- 3 Cond. 338 & note at the end of the on.)
- 3 Ark. 18
- 11 Illinois 318-279
- 13. Illinois 308-16 Mis. 124.

In this case I have not seen the deeds; but doubtless they mention the town of Beloit, and refer to the recorded Plat— Geography fixes the general locality of Beloit; and living witnesses will

prove its more precise location from the first— Also the Plat, to which the deeds refer, connects itself with the Known State line on the South, and with the natural boundary of Rock-River on the West— By this unmistakeable (sic) boundaries, apply the Plat to the face of the ground and it identifies each lot when the inhabitants claim it to be—locates the lots on the land owned by Crane when he made the deeds, and so passes the titles under and by the deeds.

There being no difficulty in identifying or locating the several lots, the deeds are not void—

I assume that the deeds from Crane to the inhabitants were duly recorded, before the execution of Cranes deed to Cooper, under which latter, Dillingham claims— If so, Dillingham can not set up want of notice to Cooper, first, because the recorded deeds notified him of the Plat, and the Plat notified him of the locality of the ground,—and it is nothing to the point, that the Plat was wanting in legal sufficiency to pass the title of a boat-landing, or other easement, to the public— And secondly, because the actual possession was notice to him as to all the lots actually occupied— I have no doubt this class can successfully defend against ejectment brought by any one claiming through the deed from Crane to Cooper.

The class who claim under conveyances from Crane *before* his Patent issued, have to meet some additional questions— The titles of this class, I think, are also good, in *Equity*, if not at law, as against the Cooper title— Any one claiming under that title can not, in equity, question the validity of Crane's pre-emption entry—because his own title, equally with ours, stands on that entry— In equal right better is the condition of him in possession—

The validity of the pre-emption entry being thus out of question, Crane's quit claim deeds to us, gave us the equitable title at least, even granting that the strict legal title did not devolve upon Crane before his Patent issued, and did not inure to us when the Patent did issue—

This, however subject to the question whether our deeds from Crane are or not absolutely void, as being in the teeth of the pre-emption law under which Crane made the entry—

That they were so void, our adversary can urge against us, without, at all, assailing his own title—

The pre-emption Act of Congress, May 29, 1830 was for one year's duration only, and contained a provision that "all assignments and transfers of the right of pre-emption given by this act, prior to the issuance of patents, shall be null and void" 1. Land Laws—473.

On the 23 Jany. 1832, and after the above act had expired by its own limitation, but while many patents remained unissued upon entries made under the act, Congress passed another act, supplementary to the former, providing that persons who had purchased under the former act, might assign and transfer their certificates of purchase, or final receipts, and that patents might issue in the name of such assignee, anything in the former act to the contrary notwithstanding. 1 Land Laws, 492.

July 14—1832, Congress revived the act of May 29, 1830 for a special class of cases— 1 Land Laws, 510.

June 19, 1834, Congress passed another act reviving the act of May 29, 1830 to continue in force for two years from its passage, but being silent as to the supplementary act of Jan. 23, 1832. 1 Land Laws, 525.

March 6, 1835, Mr. Attorney General Butler gave an official opinion that the revival of the original law of 1830, by the act of 1834, was to be considered as embracing the provisions ingrafted thereon by the supplementary act of 1832. Land Oppinions (sic) 196.

June 22, 1838 Congress again revived the Act of 1830, for two years longer— 1 Land Laws, 574.

Under this latter act the pre-emption entry now in question, was made—

If, as decided by the Attorney General, the Act of 1834, revived the Supplementary act of 1832, as well as the original of 1830, so did the act of 1838— As to that question there is no difference between the Acts of 1834 and 1838. That the Act of 1838 revived the Supplementary Act of 1832, has the additional argument in it's favor, of being passed by Congress with the supposed knowledge of the constructions the Attorney General had put upon the Act of 1834— It is a rule of law that when a statute has been enacted, and has been construed by the courts,

and another Legislature, even of a different state, re-enacts, or adopts the old statute, it also adopts the courts construction of it— And this is reasonable— If a Legislature approve a statute, but disapprove a construction which the courts have given it, they will not re-enact the law, without, in some way, protesting against the construction— So in this case— From 1835, to 1838, pre-emption entries, before patents issued, had constantly been assigned and transferred, under the decision of the Attorney General, and with the approbation of the Land Departments, and Congress, when in 1838 it again had the subject in hand, had it not approved the practice, would have expressed its disapproval—

This being so, Crane's conveyances before his patent, were not void, but valid, at least in equity— And, of this equity, as in the other class of cases, Cooper had full notice—

But in addition to this, the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of Illinois, in the case of *Morgan vs. Curtenius et al*, 4 McLean 366, fully decided, against the very objection made in this case, that the deed of a pre-emptioner, under the act of 1830, made *before* his patent issued, was after the patent issued to the pre-emptioner, a valid legal title, against a title derived from the pre-emptioner subsequently to his patent— This is our case precisely—and it is worthy of note that, the decision being made by a court of the U. S. upon laws of the U. S. is of superior authority to decisions made by the State Courts, if indeed there were any such to the contrary—

The decision is also important, in holding that the title is a legal one; and there is no doubt this is the law in Illinois, and also in Wisconsin, unless, in this particular, the law of Wisconsin is different from our,—which is not probable— I therefore think both classes of the inhabitants of Beloit, have a full legal legal (sic) defence against the Cooper title—

The case of *Gardner vs Brown et al* 2, Wisconsin R. 153, is nothing against this. In that case, the defendants had no deed from Crane, or any one else—had never purchased of Crane or anyone else— The public had no deed from Crane or anyone else— The Plat was legally insufficient to pass the title of the "Landing" to the public. The landing was not a necessary case—ment to the lots afterwards sold by Crane; and the public had never *used* it as a landing so as to get a right in that way— And

if they had, that would have given the defendants no right to squat upon it for private use—

The Streets certainly, and perhaps the public square, stand on different ground. The inhabitants are doubly protected as to them— First, because they are necessary and convenient case-ments to the lots sold by Crane, and so designated by him at the time of selling—

Secondly, because the public had used them, with Crane's knowledge and approbation, long enough before his deed to Cooper, to establish a dedication. 8 Wend. 85, 11 do— 487-11 B. Mon— 155-12 Ills. 35-60-13 Ills 312 15-Ills-236, 6 Peters 431. Upon the whole case, as to both claims of the inhabitants of Beloit, I should advise that they pay nothing for the Cooper title; bring no suit of their own; but quietly await the attack of the adversary— If the attack shall ever be made, it will be made at law, and should be defended at law; and if, finally, the interposition of a court of Equity shall become necessary, there will still be time and opportunity of resorting to it—

March 24, 1856.

A. LINCOLN.

(One of the best and most elaborate of Lincoln's briefs.)

SECTIONALISM

It is constantly objected to Fremont & Dayton, that they are supported by a *sectional* party, who, by their *sectionalism*, endanger the National Union— This objection, more than all others, causes men, really opposed to slavery extension, to hesitate— Practically, it is the most difficult objection we have to meet—

For this reason, I now propose to examine it, a little more carefully than I have heretofore done, or seen it done by others—

First, then, what is the question between the parties, respectively represented by Buchanan and Frémont?

Simply this: "*Shall slavery be allowed to extend into U. S. territories, now legally free?*" Buchanan says it *shall*; and Fremont says it *shall not*—

That is the *naked* issue, and the *whole* of it— Lay the respective platforms side by side, and the difference between them, will be found to amount to precisely that—

True, each party charges upon the other, *designs* much beyond what is involved in the issue, as stated; but as these charges can not be fully proved either way, it is probably better to reject them on both sides, and stick to the naked issue, as it is clearly made up on the record.

And now, to restate the question "*Shall slavery be allowed to extend into U. S. territories (sic), now legally free?*" I beg to know *how one* side of that question is more sectional than the other? Of course I expect to effect nothing with the man who makes this charge of sectionalism, without caring whether it is just or not—But of the *candid, fair* man who has been puzzled with this charge, I do ask how is *one* side of this question, more sectional, than the other? I beg of him to consider well, and answer calmly—

If one side be as sectional as the other, nothing is gained, as to sectionalism, by changing sides; so that each must choose sides of the question on some other ground—as I should think, according, as the one side or the other, shall appear nearest right—

If he shall really think slavery *ought* to be extended, let him go to Buchanan; if he think it ought *not* let him go to Fremont—

But, Frémont and Dayton, are both residents of the free-states; and this fact has been vaunted, in high places, as excessive *sectionalism*—

While interested individuals become *indignant* and *excited*, against this manifestation of *sectionalism*, I am very happy to know, that the Constitution remains calm—keeps cool—upon the subject—It does say that President and Vice President shall be resident of different states; but it does not say one must live in a *slave*, and the other in a *free* state—

It has been a *custom* to take one from a slave, and the other from a free state; but the custom has not, at all been uniform—In 1828 Gen. Jackson and Mr. Calhoun, both from slave-states, were placed on the same ticket; and Mr. Adams and Dr. Rush. . . .

In the Circuit Court of
the United States in and
for the Southern District
of Illinois—

The Answer of Harry P. Merriman to the Bill in Chancery exhibited against him, by Alexander H. Freeman and Aaron S. Bright, in the Circuit Court aforesaid—

This Respondent saving and reserving to himself the benefit of all just exceptions to the manifold errors, untruths, and insufficiencies of said Bill, for answer to said Bill, or to so much thereof as he is advised it is material for him to make answer unto, answering says, it is, true that the complainants did recover a judgment against respondent, as stated in said Bill, and that said judgment still remains in full force; that a writ of *Fieri Facies* did issue, and was duly endorsed and delivered to the Marshal, as charged in said Bill; that said Marshal did demand property of Respondent, Respondent did refuse to turn out property, and that said writ was returned wholly unsatisfied, all as charged in said Bill— It is also true that Respondent has been engaged in the mercantile business in the City of Bloomington, Illinois, as charged in said Bill, and that while in said business, a large number of persons became indebted to him, but that he does not now hold, nor did he when process herein was served on him, any large amount of securities or evidences, or of goods wares and merchandize, or other articles of personal property, which belong to him, or in which he is, in any way beneficially interested; that he has no interest in any real estate other than as he will hereinafter fully state; that he is not the owner, or in any way beneficially interested in the stock of any Company, or in the profits of any; and Respondent had not, at the time of filing said Bill, nor since, in his own possession, or in any way or place for his benefit, more than thirty dollars, and that he now has a few dollars—twenty one, as he believes—

Respondent can more conveniently give an account of what means he had at the time of his failure and since, and how he has disposed of the same, by taking the matter up connectedly as it occurred— At the time Respondent discovered himself unable to continue business, he was justly indebted to a large number of

persons, and he set about disposing of his means as fast as possible in discharge of his indebtedness, in no single instance applying anything otherwise than to a just debt, at the very best terms he could get, and in no instance, reserving any certain or contingent interest to himself, directly or indirectly in any way howsoever; that in pursuance of his purpose to pay all his debts as speedily as possible, he made an offer by letter to let the complainant herein, have the tract of land mentioned in their Bill, which respondent then owned, which tract is S. W. of N. W. Sec. 27-T. 21. N. R. 2 East in DeWitt county; to this offer he received an answer referring him to their counsel, Mr. Smith of Chicago; and the first he heard from Mr. Smith, was the service of process in the common-law suit mentioned in the Bill— After the service of process and before judgment in said common-law suit, Respondent conveyed the tract of land aforesaid to James C. Walker, an attorney of Bloomington Illinois, for the benefit of Respondents creditors, Budge & Shephard, to be reconveyed however, if Budge & Shephard would not accept it at certain prescribed terms, which they did not accept; but this leading to further negotiations, Budge & Shephard finally retained the land at five dollars per acre; respondent receiving nothing therefor except a credit on his indebtedness for the amount—two hundred dollars—and Respondent now owns no interest, present or contingent, directly or indirectly in said land. Also, after the process was served, and before judgment in said common law-suit, Respondent in like manner conveyed one hundred acres of land, the description of which he can not now give, to said James C. Walker, for the benefit of John S. Thompson, and

bona fide creditors of Respondent at St. Louis Mo., for the sum of six hundred and seventy odd dollars, in discharge of his indebtedness to that extent, and not otherwise; and Respondent has no interest, present or contingent, in said land, in any way or manner howsoever—

From that time up to the time when the Marshal called on Respondent with the Execution, as stated in the Bill, Respondent had no real estate, or interest in any real estate, in any way whatever, except as he will now mention— Respondent then had, and still has forty acres of land in the Territory of Minnesota, and as he thinks in Hennepin County, but a more particular

description of which he can not now give, though he can get it when he returns to Bloomington— The value of this tract Respondent supposes to be about three hundred dollars. He also then had and still has the right of redemption in the one undivided half of the N. quarter of Sec. 8, T. 21 N.R. 5. East, in McLean County Illinois, which was sold on execution by the Sheriff of said county, as affiant remembers on the 25th day of November last— Respondent can not say what this right of redemption is worth— Before the presentation of the execution by the Marshal, as mentioned in the Bill, and as respondent believes before the commencement of the common-law suit, he had placed one hundred dollars in the hands of one Warren P. Carter, to be invested in land in Minnesota for Respondent; and since the presentation of said execution he has been informed it has been so invested in 80 acres of land, in Minnesota for Respondent, but the description or precise location of said tract Respondent has never known— From information, Respondent supposes this tract to be worth three dollars, per acre—

Respondent's brother, A. J. Merriman, had been indebted to respondent in a considerable amount; and also held a clear equitable right to Lots 9, 10, 15 & 16, in Sec. 16 T. 23 N.R. 5 East in McLean county, Illinois amounting to 160 acres; and on or about the 6th day of May 1856, he gave Respondent an obligation to convey said land to Respondent, when he should himself receive the legal title from the School Commissioner—this was in consideration of \$840. of the indebtedness of said A. J. Merriman to Respondent— Respondent supposes this tract to be worth a thousand dollars.

On May 13, 1856, Respondent and M. W. Packard purchased 354 acres of land in Sec. 6, T. 24, N.R. 4 E. in McLean county, Illinois, of one Samuel Paul, at \$15 per acre, and on which, six hundred dollars only have been paid, of which Respondent paid one half by releasing said Packard of that amount which said Packard owed Respondent, and by which said Packard paid the whole six hundred dollars to said Paul— Respondent & said Packard have only the equitable interest arising as aforesaid, in said land, and have not, and can not get, the legal title until the purchase money shall be fully paid—

Respondent also has from four to six hundred dollars of notes

and accounts, about three hundred and fifty dollars of which, and not more, are collectible—

Full answers to the three special interrogatories, are found in the statements hereinbefore made—

And now Respondent adds that, to the best of his recollection and belief, he has not anything, or any interest in anything, present or future, certain or contingent which he has not herein fully disclosed, except the wearing apparel (sic) of himself and wife and a few trifling house-hold articles, not sufficient to keep house with in the most limited way—

And now having fully answered, Respondent prays to be hence discharged with his reasonable costs—

H. P. MERRIMAN.

Subscribed and Sworn to
before me this 7th day of
June A.D. 1856.

S. A. CORMAN

U. S. Comsr. South Dist. Ills.

(Filed June 7th 1856)

Springfield, July 28, 1856.

HON. ARTEMAS HALE

Bridgewater—Mass.

My dear Sir:

Yours of the 24th Inst. is just received— I very cheerfully give you my opinion as to the prospects of the Presidential election in this state & Indiana; premising that I am a Frémont man, so that you can make due allowance for my partiality—

I have no doubt, then, that the opposition to Buchanan, are the majority in both these states; but, that opposition being divided between Frémont & Fillmore, places both states in some danger— I think the danger is not great in Indiana; but some greater here— The Fillmore men have no power in either state, beyond dividing strength, and thereby bettering the chances of Buchanan— They know this; and I still hope the bulk of them will think better than to throw away their votes for such an object—

Your Obt. Servant

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, August 1, 1856.

TO HONORABLE J. M. PALMER.

Dear sir:—

It is our judgment that whether you do or do not finally stand as a candidate for Congress, it is better for you to not to publicly decline for a while.

It is a long time till the election, and what may turn up no one can tell.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN,
RICH'D YATES,
W. H. HERNDON,
WM. JAYNE.

Springfield, Sept. 8, 1856.

ED. LAWRENCE, Esq.

Dear Sir,

I understand you are a Fillmore man. Let me prove to you that every vote withheld from Frémont, and given to Fillmore, *in this state*, actually lessens Fillmore's chance of being President—

Suppose Buchanan gets *all* the slave states, and Pennsylvania, and *any other* one state besides; *then he is elected*, no matter who gets all the rest—

But suppose Fillmore gets the two slave states of Maryland and Kentucky; *then Buchanan is not* elected; Fillmore goes into the House of Representatives, and may be made President by a compromise—

But suppose again Fillmore's friends throw away a few thousand votes on him, in *Indiana* and *Illinois*, it will inevitably give these states to Buchanan, which will more than compensate him for the loss of Maryland and Kentucky, will elect him, and leave Fillmore no chance in the H.R. or out of it—

This is as plain as the adding up of the weights of three small hogs— As Mr. Fillmore has no possible chance to carry Illinois *for himself*, it is plainly his interest to let Frémont take it, and thus keep it out of the hands of Buchanan— Be not deceived. *Buchanan* is the hard horse to beat in this race— Let him have Illinois, and nothing can beat him; *and he will get Illinois*, if men

persist in throwing away votes upon Mr. Fillmore— Does some one persuade you that Mr. Fillmore can carry Illinois? Nonsense! There are over seventy newspapers in Illinois opposing Buchanan, only three or four of which support Mr. Fillmore, *all* the rest going for Frémont— Are not these newspapers a fair index of the proportion of the voters— If not, tell me why—

Again, of these three or four Fillmore newspapers, *two* at least, are supported, in part, by the Buchanan men, as I understand. Do not they know where the shoe pinches? They know the Fillmore movement helps *them*, and therefore they help *it*. Do think these things over, and then act according to your judgment.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Confidential.

Springfield, Sept. 8, 1856.

LUTHER HILL, Esq.,

Dear Sir: I understand you are a Fillmore man. Let me prove to you that every vote withheld from Fremont, *in this State*, actually lessens Fillmore's chance of being President.

Suppose Buchanan gets *all* the slave states, and Pennsylvania, and *any other* one State besides; *then he is elected*, no matter who gets all the rest.

But suppose Fillmore gets the two slave states of Maryland and Kentucky; *then* Buchanan is not elected; Fillmore goes into the House of Representatives, and may be made President by a compromise.

But suppose again Fillmore's friends throw away a few thousand votes on him, in Indiana and Illinois, it will inevitably give these states to Buchanan, which will more than compensate him for the loss of Maryland and Kentucky; will elect him, and leave Fillmore no chance in the H. R., or out of it.

This is as plain as the adding up of the weights of three small hogs. As Mr. Fillmore has no possible chance to carry Illinois *for himself*, it is plainly his interest to let Fremont take it, and thus keep it out of the hands of Buchanan. Be not deceived, Buchanan is the hard horse to beat in this race. Let him have Illinois and nothing can beat him; *and he will get* Illinois if men persist in throwing away votes upon Mr. Fillmore. Does some one

persuade you that Mr. Fillmore can carry Illinois? Nonsense! There are over seventy newspapers in Illinois opposing Buchanan, only three or four of which support Mr. Fillmore, *all* the rest going for Fremont. Are not these newspapers a fair index of the proportion of the voters—if not, tell me why.

Again, of these three or four Fillmore newspapers, two at least, are supported, in part, by the Buchanan men, so I understand. Do not they know when the shoe pinches? They know the Fillmore movement helps *them*, and therefore they help *it*. Do think these things over, and then act according to your judgment.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Confidential.

REMARKS AT BLOOMINGTON

Sept. 12, 1856.

Hon. A. Lincoln addressed the audience in a speech of great eloquence and power. He showed up the position of the Fillmore party in fine style, both as to its prospects of success, and as to the propriety of supporting a candidate whose greatest recommendation, as urged by his supporters themselves, is that he is *neutral* upon the one only great political question of the times. He pointed out in regular succession, the several steps taken by the Administration in regard to slavery in the Territories, from the repeal of the Missouri Compromise down to the latest Border Ruffian invasion of Kansas, and the inevitable tendency of each and all of them to effect the spread of slavery over that country; showed the official endorsement of the Administration by the Democratic party in the Cincinnati Convention, and the openly avowed position of the Southern wing of the party on the subject of slavery-extension; contrasting all this with the assertion of our Northern Democratic speakers, that they are not in favor of the extension of slavery, with a clearness and force we have never heard excelled, and which must have made the *honest* Democrats, if any such there were present, feel as if they had received an eye-opener.

Bloomington Pantagraph (Weekly) September 17, 1856.

Springfield, Sept. 14, 1856.

FREDERICK HECKER, ESQ.

My dear Sir,

Your much valued letter of the 7th is received— Could you not be with us here on the 25th of this month, when we expect to have a large mass-meeting? We cannot dispense with your services in this contest; and we ought, in a pecuniary way, to give you some relief in the difficulty of having your house burnt— I have started a proposition for this, among our friends, with a prospect of some degree of success— It is but fair and just; and I hope you will not decline to accept what we may be able to do—

Please write me whether you can be here on the 25th.

Very truly yours,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Sept. 27, 1856.

JULIAN M. STURTEVANT.

My dear Sir:

Owing to absence yours of the 16th, was not received until the day before yesterday. I thank you for your good opinion of me personally, and still more for the deep interest you take in the cause of our common country. It pains me a little that you have deemed it necessary to point out to me how I may be compensated for throwing myself in the breach now. This assumes that I am merely calculating the chances of personal advancement. Let me assure you that I decline to be a candidate for congress, on my clear conviction that my running would hurt and not help the cause. I am willing to make any personal sacrifice, but I am not willing to do, what in my own judgment, is a sacrifice of the cause itself.

Very Truly Yours,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, 1856

Friends: I agree with you in providence, but I believe in the providence of the most men,—the longest purse and the largest cannon.

Urbana, Oct. 21. 1856

A. JONAS, Esq

My dear Sir:

I am here at court, and find myself so "hobbled" with a particular case, that I can not leave, & consequently, can not be with you on the 23rd. I regret this exceedingly, but there is no help for it. Please make the best apology, for me, in your power.

Your friend as ever

A. LINCOLN.

The brief of another argument by Lincoln discloses what he thought of gambling. The suit of Smith *vs.* Smith, was appealed to the Supreme Court of Illinois from Bond County. After relating that in November, 1856, two days after the presidential election, Isaac Smith, the plaintiff in error, made a bet of one hundred and ten dollars with one Moffett, against a buggy owned by the latter, that the vote of Fillmore as a candidate for President of the United States was not behind the other candidates in the State of New York, he continues:

November 1856.

The defendant attempts to defend his wrong by proving a bet on the Presidential election in this wise: He says he bet some money with Moffett against the buggy of Moffett on the *Presidential Election in the State of New York*; that the money and buggy were put into the hands of a stake-holder; and that the stake-holder about the 14th day of November, 1856, decided the bet in the favor of the defendant below. The defendant took the buggy away from the place where the plaintiff left it at the time of the trade. See Record—page 9. The trade between Moffett and plaintiff below was for the buggy in controversy. Now it appears that Moffett's and the plaintiff's trade about and for the buggy and note was before the bet. *This does not appear* from absolute figures, but it is necessarily so, as the witnesses in spirit state it. But suppose this is not so, yet *it is positively true* that the plaintiff below and Moffett traded as aforesaid long before the stake-holder had decided the question and long before the defendant below took possession of the buggy.

And now this question is presented: Is this gambling debt contrary to the laws of this state, or public policy, or morality; and

this being the case, as we think it is, the seller of the buggy had a right to *repent of the law's violation* and to *revoke the bet*; and the power conferred on the stake-holder so long as the Presidential question in the State of N. Y. was an open and undecided question by the stake-holder.

1st—This is gambling and comes within the provisions of our statute against gambling. See Rev. Statute pages 177-263; 2 Carter (Indiana) 499 and 2 Vol. Freeman's Digest 1570-71. We think that betting on Presidential elections over the Union, or in *particular states thereof*, comes within the spirit of the laws; and if not such betting is contrary to public policy and morality and therefore void, or, at least, voidable; i.e., that bets may be *revoked while the decision is pending*.

2nd.—And now for the revocation argument: A bet may be revoked because it is contrary to the law of this state or its *public policy or public morality*. See 9 Barlow 315; 18 Penn 329; 12 B. Monroe 140-141; 11 Cushing 357. This bet was revoked by the sale to the plaintiff below, long before the decision of the question by the stake-holder, *and this repenting and revoking the law allows—yea favors*.

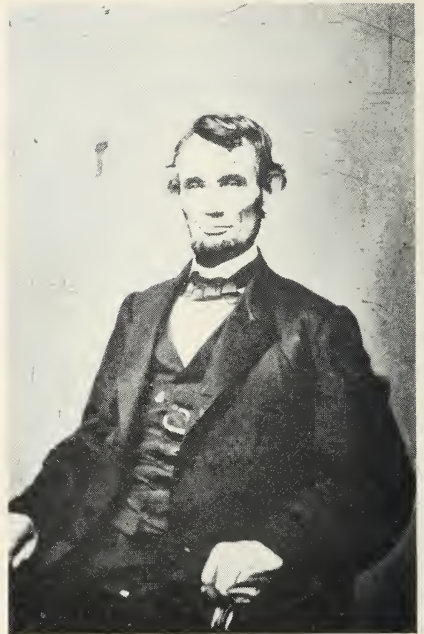
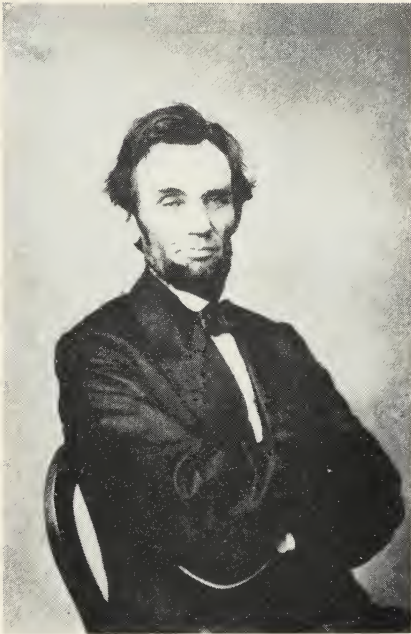
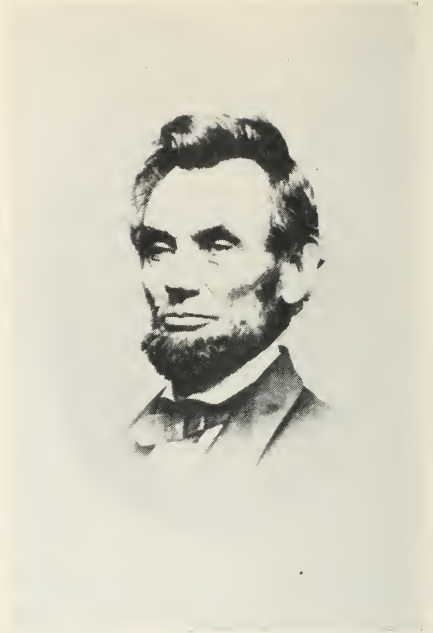
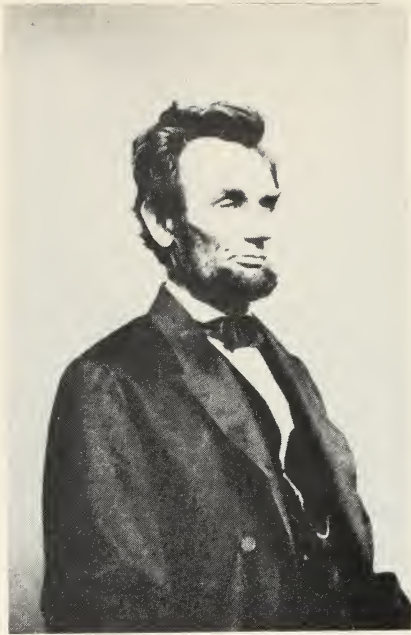
Springfield Nov. 24—1856.

JONATHAN HAINES Esq.

Dear Sir:

Your letter asking instructions as to taking depositions of witnesses at a distance is received. You know I think our case is not yet ready for taking depositions, but as you wish to take them notwithstanding I give you such instructions as I can. There are two ways, First notify the opposite party or his lawyer, in writing that on such a day (more than ten days after you give the notice) you will send out from the Clerk's office a commission to take the deposition. The notice must contain a copy of the interrogations intended to put to each witness. Then notice will have to be drawn up by a lawyer and I cannot do it unless you were with me to give names places of residence and questions to be asked.

Second, go to some lawyer near where the witnesses live who is in the habit of practicing in the U. S. Courts and get him to superintend the taking of the deposition *de bene esse* as the law-



(From the Collection of Frederick Hill Meserve)

yers call it. He will know how to do it. The later is the mode I would advise in the present case.

I really do not know when the next term of court begins but as you pass Chicago you can learn in a moment.

Yours Truly

A. LINCOLN.

REMARKS AT MEETING OF SPRINGFIELD BAR

December 20, 1856

On December 20, 1856, the last day of the fall term of court, the Springfield bar met in the court house. Stephen T. Logan was called to the chair, and J. B. White made secretary.

E. B. Herndon opened the meeting by stating that James H. Matheny was about to retire from the office of circuit clerk, and that it was fitting that his long and efficient service should be suitably recognized. To that end he presented a series of resolutions commending Matheny, which were adopted unanimously. On the motion of S. M. Cullom, it was resolved that the resolutions be spread upon the record.

Lincoln then spoke as follows:

“This is the first intimation I have had that any such meeting as this was intended. It takes me considerably by surprise, particularly as it might be expected that I am to say something. Much could be said of the man named in the resolutions, and of his public services. Indeed, much could be said, which, if said of other men, would be sheer flattery, whilst in respect to him it falls far short of the whole truth. That I have long esteemed Mr. Matheny as a man and a friend, is known to you all. But that I should mete out to you the full measure of his worth, I shall not now attempt to do. Besides, much of this has already been beautifully and graphically done by my friend Mr. Herndon. Mr. Chairman, allow me in conclusion to say that I fully concur in all that has been said and done on this occasion.”

The meeting then adjourned, and court convened, whereupon Judge Logan rose and asked that the resolutions just passed be spread upon the record. Judge Davis so ordered, and paid a brief tribute to Matheny.

Springfield, Dec. 25, 1856.

DR. R. BOAL

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 22nd is just received.

I suppose the "Chenery House" is likely to be the Republican headquarters. I find the best that can be done there is to give you the room you had two years ago, or one like it, at \$21. per week, with fire and light, for the two persons. I do not believe you can do better, at any of the hotels. If you conclude to take it, Mr. Chenery wishes you to write him immediately.

When I was at Chicago two weeks ago, I saw Mr. Arnold, and, from a remark of his, I inferred he was thinking of the speakership, though I think he was not anxious about it. He seemed most anxious for harmony generally, and particularly that the contested seats from Peoria and McDonough might be rightly determined. Since I came home, I had a talk with Cullom, one of our American representatives here, and he says he is for you for Speaker, and also that he thinks all Americans will be for you, unless it be Gorin, of Macon, of whom he cannot speak. If you would like to be Speaker, go right up and see Arnold. He is talented, generous, a practical debater, and, I think, would do himself more credit on the floor than in the Speaker's seat. Go and see him, and if you think fit show him this letter.

Your friend, as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

RICHARDSON & HOPKINS, }

vs

JOEL JOHNSON

} In case

Be it remembered that on the trial of this cause, the plaintiffs introduced Henry L. Brush, who testified that the plaintiffs reside and do business at Ottawa, Illinois; that he, witness, had manufactured a quantity of native wine, in the county of Greene, in the State of Illinois; that witness and the plaintiffs had a contract with each other, by which the plaintiffs were to furnish all the money necessary for the manufacturing, transporting to Ottawa, and making sale of said wine, and also a small quantity of Champaign cider, and witness was to put in his skill in the manufacturing of said wine, and to give his superintendence, in

the transporting of it and the cider to Ottawa, and when the wine and cider should be sold, the plaintiffs to be first refunded their out-lay of money, and the profits, if any, to be divided between plaintiffs and witness, they to take two thirds, and he one third; that on the 3rd day of April 1855, he witness, had in his hands \$434 of money which had been put in his hands by the plaintiffs to be used in purchasing the cider & paying carriage on the wine to Ottawa in the business aforesaid; that with this money he was proceeding from Ottawa to Greene county to give his attention to said business; that he fell in with an acquaintance by the name of Thompson, and the two together arrived at the defendants' tavern in Springfield, called the "City Hotel" at about eleven o'clock at night, and called for supper and lodging; that they got their supper; and Thompson, having a package of three thousand dollars, which he was carrying for some other person or persons, gave it to the defendant's clerk, for safekeeping, who locked it up in an iron safe; that neither Thompson or witness offered any other money to said clerk for safe keeping, nor said any thing to the clerk as to whether they or either of them had any other money; nor did the clerk say anything to either of them, as to whether they had any other money; that witness did not see the defendant that night; that after the three thousand dollar package was deposited as aforesaid, Thompson and witness were shown to the same room in which there was a single bed; that after entering the room with a light, Thompson locked the door inside, remarking that the lock was a good one, and leaving the key in the lock; that he, witness, drew from the pocket of his pantaloons a roll of bank notes, amounting to \$370, and showing it to Thompson, said to him "this is the way I carry my money" that, in fact, this \$370, witness had that day drawn at La Salle, on a draft or check of the plaintiffs, and had not had sufficient time and opportunity to put it away more carefully; that the remaining part of the \$434, witness then had in a "port-money," in the same pocket, but which "port money" was too full of the other money, and of papers of different sorts, to admit this roll of \$370; that he adjusted the roll of bills a little, put them in a letter envelope, and put the whole back into the same pantaloons pocket with the "port money" and put the pantaloons on a chair at the foot

of the bed, the chair being in the part of the room farthest from the door; that before it was light in the morning, Thompson and witness awoke, and one expressed to the other some surprize that he could hear the noise down stairs so plainly, especially as they were in the third story; that this soon led to the discovery that the door of their room was standing open; that on search it was found that witnesses' pantaloons were removed from the chair where he had placed them, and were lying at, and partly out of the door, and the money which had been left, both in the letter envelope, and the "port money" was all gone, and that witness had never recovered, or made any farther discovery as to how or when it had gone—

Said Thompson, was also examined as a witness, and corroborated the statements of said Brush in all material points; and added, that he had in his pantaloons pocket, about \$300 in money and a Bill of Exchange of about \$400, which he did not think necessary to deposit in the safe; that he placed his pantaloons under his pillow, and that none of his money was taken; that he supposed he deposited the three thousand dollar package in the safe, while he did not so deposit his own smaller amount, because the former was the larger sum, and he thought it safer to do so.

The defendant admitted that he was the keeper of the said "City Hotel" and was an inn-keeper in the sense of the law, at the time the money was lost as aforesaid— Here the plaintiffs closed their case—

The defendant then introduced one Johnson, who testified that he was defendant's clerk at the time the money was lost; that there was an iron safe kept by the defendant, under the end of the counter, first reached by a person coming into the room from the street; that said safe was in what might be called the office, or public reception room of the Hotel; that said safe was kept by defendant for depositing and safely keeping the money and other valuables of his guests; that said Thompson, on the night in question did deposit the three thousand dollar package as stated; and that said Brush was standing present and could not but have seen the safe, and the making of the deposit in it; that witness, saw any signs of guests

having valuables about them, was in the habit of calling their attention to it as a proper place to put them; but seeing no such further sign about either Brush or Thompson, and they saying nothing on the subject, he said nothing to either of them about the safe; that although many guests did deposit in the safe, there also were many who did not; and there was no public notice given by defendant that valuables *must* be put in the safe; that he, witness, would not have regarded it as unsafe or imprudent to carry four or five hundred dollars with him to a room for a night's lodging, although he knew the safe was there into which he might put it—

This was the substance of all the evidence in the case—

The defendant prayed the court to instruct the jury as follows, to wit:

The court instruct the jury:

That if they believe from the evidence that the plaintiffs were engaged with Brush in a certain business, in which they were to furnish the necessary money, and he, Brush, to furnish the skill and superintendence, and at the end of the business, the plaintiffs, to first be refunded the money advanced; and then the nett (sic) profits, if any, to be divided between them and Brush—they taking two thirds, and he one; and that the money lost in this case, was put into Brush's hands for the purpose of being used in that business, then Brush was a partner, or part owner of the money, and these plaintiffs, alone can not recover in this suit—

The court instructs the jury

That if they believe from the evidence, the defendant kept an iron safe, for the purpose of depositing the money, and other valuables of his guests in; and that Brush knew of this safe, and the use for which it was kept, and even saw his own travelling companion, and room companion, and bed-fellow, deposit a large sum of money in it for safe-keeping, and, with such knowledge, chose to not deposit the money now in question, in said safe, but rather to rely upon himself for the safe-keeping of it, they are to find for the defendant, in the absence of any evidence as to who actually took the money

which instructions were both, and each, refused by the court, and to which refusal the the (sic) defendant then and there excepted—

The jury found for the plaintiffs and assessed their damages at \$286—

The defendant moved the court for a new trial, on the grounds of the refusal by the court of the instructions, prayed for by the defendant, as aforesaid, and because the verdict was contrary to the law, as applicable to the evidence in this case—which motion the court over-ruled and rendered judgment for the plaintiffs on the verdict, and to the overruling of which motion, and to the rendering of which judgment, the defendant then and there severally excepted; and now prays that this his Bill of exceptions be signed, sealed, and made part of the record in the cause.

And it is done—

CHARLES EMERSON, Judge. [Seal]

LUCY MATTHEWS	}	Bill for Divorce
vs		
JOSIAH MATTHEWS		
JOSIAH MATTHEWS	}	Cross-bill for Divorce
vs		
LUCY MATTHEWS		

This day came the parties and submit both of these cases, upon Bills, answers, Replications, and parol proofs for the trial of the issues of fact therein, to a jury who, being duly elected tried and sworn; and having heard the evidence and argument of counsel, for verdict say "We the jury find that the said Josiah Matthews is not guilty of the extreme and repeated cruelty charged against him in the original bill; and that the said Lucy Matthews is guilty of having wilfully deserted and absented herself from the said Josiah, without any reasonable cause, for the space of two years, as charged in said cross-bill," It is therefore ordered and decreed by the court that the bonds of matrimony heretofore and now existing between the parties, be henceforth and forever dissolved— It is further ordered by the court, that the party, Josiah Matthews, pay all the costs of these suits— And now by the agreement of the parties, the said Josiah, in open court,

pays to the said Lucy the sum of two hundred and seventyfive dollars, which she accepts in lieu of all alimony, and claim for support and maintainance (sic)—

D. DAVIS.

Springfield, Feb. 7, 1857.

HON. G. KOERNER

My dear Sir:

The Court, on yesterday, overruled, the Demurrer to Hatch's Return in the Mandamus case— They merely announced that they over-ruled the demurrer, stating no ground, or reason for doing so— Let this be confidential, but Peck told me that in the consultation room, they unanimously declared in his presence, that if the Gov— had signed the Bill purposely he had the right to change his mind and strike his name off, so long as the Bill remained in his control—

McClermand was present when the decision was announced, said nothing about pleading over, and I presume the matter is ended.

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Feb. 12th 1857.

MESSRS. STEELE & SUMMERS

Gentlemen

Yours of the 10th covering a claim of Mr. D. A. Morrison against the Illinois Central Railroad Company is received— I have been in the regular retainer of the Co. for two or three years; but I expect they do not wish to retain me any longer— The road not passing this point, there is no one here for me to present the claims to— I have concluded to say to you, that I am going to Chicago, if nothing prevents, on the 21st Inst. and I will then ascertain whether they discharge me; & if they do, as I expect, I will attend to your business & write you— If this is satisfactory, let it so stand—if not write me at once—

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield Feb 19th 1857.

MESSRS. LOGAN & LINCOLN
Gentlemen

I desire your legal opinions, in writing in answer to the following interrogatories.

1st What fees is the county surveyor entitled to for establishing a section, half section, sixteenth of a section or any other part of a section, other than a quarter or half-quarter section?

See Sec. 25 chap. 41 R. S. $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{none} \\ \text{my construction} \end{array} \right\}$

2nd In the survey and laying out of towns & additions, has the county surveyor a legal right to charge & collect (at his election) under either tariff of fees as specified in Sec. 26 chap. 25 R. S. and sec. 25 chap 41 Revised Statutes?

Yes

3rd If the county surveyor has the legal right to charge & collect for surveying and laying out towns and additions by the tariff of fees contained in Sec. 25 chap. 41, is the party wanting the town or addition laid out bound to furnish the chainner?

See sec. 6 chapt. 103 R. S. & Parsons et al vs. Bailey Scammon 507

Yes

4th If before laying out a town or addition it is necessary to survey and establish the lines and corners of the tract of land on which the town or addition is to be located, is the surveyor entitled to charge the ordinary fee for the establishment of such tract?

Yes—cond.

5th Is the county surveyor legally entitled to any fee or compensation for recording a survey in his official record and furnishing a party with a plat & certificate of survey, or for either recording or plat & certificate, and how much?

See Duty of Surveyor Sec. 7 chapt. 103 R. S.

Yes

6th Does the allowance of two dollars per day in "full compensation for traveling expenses when necessarily engaged in the discharge of the duties of his office," include the time that he may be engaged in making the survey and platting & computing

the area, as well as the time of travelling to the place of survey & returning therefrom? See Sec. 25 chap. 41 Rev. Stat.

No

7th Is the county surveyor acting in the double capacity of road reviewer & surveyor, entitled to charge three dollars per day for each and every day necessarily employed in such double capacity?

See Sec. 36 chapt. 93 Rev. Stat.

Yes

8th Is the county surveyor entitled to charge for the certified plat and field notes of the road survey, and if so what amount? See Sec. 33 chap. 93 R. Stat.

Sec. 36—ch. 93

No

9th Is the county surveyor entitled to two dollars per day in compensation for traveling expenses in addition to the above fees for all or any part of the time while necessarily employed in surveying the road?

Yes

10th Is it the duty of the county surveyor to record in his official record the survey of all towns, additions and roads made by him?

Yes as to towns, etc.

An early reply to the above is respectfully solicited.

Yours etc.

Z. A. ENOS.

MR. Z. A. ENOS

In answer to your Interrogatories my opinion is is (sic) that where the law requires a Surveyor to perform services for a person applying and fixes no pay the Surveyor is entitled to a reasonable compensation proportioned to the fees allowed by law.

As to First Question— The law fixes \$2.50 for establishing a quarter Sec— And two dollars for a half quarter—

This fixes the legal proportionate rule as you will see by calculation at One dollar per mile for each line & 12½ cents for fixing the corner—as follows

A ¼ Sect. has lines 2 miles long at 1\$ (sic) mile	2.00
four corners at a bit—	.50
	<hr/>
	2.50

A $\frac{1}{2}$ quarter has lined $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles	1.50
4 corners at $12\frac{1}{2}$.50
	<hr/>
	2.00
A 40 acre tract at same rate has	
lines 1 mile long—	1.00
4 corners	.50
	<hr/>
	1.50
A Section has lines 4 miles long	4.00
4 corners	.50
	<hr/>
	4.50—

A smaller or larger survey in proportion—

In answer to 2 Interrogatory— I think the act in regard to fees governs where the number of lots exceed ten according to the rule in Sec 23—chapter 90 revised laws;

To 3rd the party wanting any survey made must find & pay the chainmen—

To 4th Interrogatory— If it is necessary to establish the lines & corners of the land on which the Town is laid off the Surveyor has a right to charge the usual fees

To the 5th the Surveyor is entitled to fees for the services in this question mentioned but as the law does not fix it it is only to be reasonable according to the labour and skill required—

To the 6th question my opinion is that the Two dollars per day is an additional allowance over and above the foregoing fees and is intended to pay for the inconvenience of being from home horse hire tavern expenses etc. and covers all the time he is engaged at the work away from home & going & reasonable time to return—and this although he earns other fees for surveys establishing lines etc.

To 7th Question If the Surveyor does the double duties of Surveyor & road viewer he is entitled to the double pay—but if he should be acting a day as reviewer & not as Surveyor he is entitled to only One dollar. Or if he should act one day as surveyor & not as reviewer—he would be entitled to two dollars

for that day—it is only whilst acting in the double capacity that he is entitled to double pay—

To 8th he is entitled to Two dollars per day while making it out—

9th answered before— In answer to 6th quest.

10th the surveyor is to record Surveys of Towns and additions but not roads—

S. T. LOGAN.

I concur in the foregoing opinion of Judge Logan—

March 14, 1857.

A. LINCOLN—

Springfield, May 9, 1857.

C. D. GILFILLAN, Chairman &c.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 1st Inst. inviting me to visit your Territory (sic), and to give such assistance as I might be able, to the Republican cause, during your approaching political struggles, is received— I have no great faith in the success of my efforts; still it is with some regret I have to say I can not visit you before the June election; and I can not, as yet, say I will be able to do so in the summer or fall— Having devoted the most of last year to politics, it is a *necessity* with me to devote this, to my private affairs—

I have learned that our Republican Senator, Judge Trumbull, will be with you— You will find him a *true* and an *able* man—

May the God of the right, give you the victory *now*, as He surely will in the end—

Your Obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN—

Springfield, June 9. 1857.

CHARLES A. PURDY, Esq

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 5th was duly received— The Register of the Land-Office here tells me that no patents come to this office on entries made at the other offices, before they were all concentrated here—

He says the way for you to get your Patents, is to send their Receipts or Certificates to the General Land Office, with your address, and the Patents will be forwarded directly to your address— Accordingly, I enclose the Receipts to you—

I also enclose the other documents, with the Certificate of our Secretary of State attached, as you demand—

I am glad the Sniffin and Harris suit is likely to be settled—

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN—

Springfield, June 29th, 1857.

DEAR BROWNING.

When I went to Bloomington . . . I saw Mr. Price and learned from him that this note was a sort of “insolvent fix-up” with his creditors—a fact in his history I have not before learned of.

Springfield, July 20, 1857

B. C. LUNDY, Esq.

Dear Sir:

Owing to my absence, yours of the 10th was not received till a day or so ago. Senator Trumbull’s speech and my own have both been published in pamphlet form, at the Illinois Journal offices, but the copies printed off have been exhausted. They will have a new supply printed by the time this reaches you, and you can write them. Their price is a dollar per hundred. Mine is much larger and better print than it was in the Journal paper. Send directly to the Journal for the number of each you want, directing them how and where to send them.

What you say about our party doing something this year is perfectly right; on that subject open a correspondence with N. B. Judd, of Chicago, telling him I suggested it to you. I believe you are in the Peoria Senatorial district—a district that has to be very thoroughly cultivated—outside of it, up your way does not need much.

I have another matter in contemplation, which I will not mention now, but concerning which I may write you in a month or so.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, September 30, 1857.

HON. R. YATES.

Dear Sir: Your letter, called out by the letter of J. O. Johnson, was received by me on my return from Chicago. Mr. Johnson wrote the letter by concert with me, and is entirely reliable. He is a newcomer, but he can devote more time to getting up an organization than anyone I know who knows as well as he how to do it.

And now let me say I wish you could make up your mind to come to the legislature from Morgan County next time. You can be elected, and I doubt some whether any other friend can. It will be something of a sacrifice to you, but can you not make it?

Yours, as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

(Being draft for one of his speeches in Lincoln-Douglas debate 1858.)

I have never professed an indifference to the honors of official station; and were I to do so now, I should only make myself ridiculous— Yet I have never failed—do not now fail—to remember that in the republican cause there is a higher aim than that of mere office— I have not allowed myself to forget that the abolition of the Slave-trade by Great Britain (sic), was agitated a hundred years before it was a final success; that the measure had it's open fire-eating opponents; it's stealthy "dont care" opponents; it's dollar and cent opponents; it's inferior race opponents; its negro equality opponents; and its religion and good order opponents; that all these opponents got offices, and their adversaries got none— But I have also remembered that though they blazed, like tallow-candles for a century, at last they flickered in the socket, died out, stank in the dark for a brief season, and were remembered no more, even by the smell— School-boys know that Wilberforce, and Granville Sharpe, helped that cause forward; but who can now name a single man who labored to retard it? Remembering these things I can not but regard it as possible that the higher object of this contest may not be completely attained within the term of my natural life— But I can not doubt either that it will come in due time. Even in this view, I am proud,

in my passing speck of time, to contribute an humble mite to that glorious consummation, which my own poor eyes may not last to see—

Accompanying the M.S. (property of Her Grace the Duchess of St. Albans) is a letter from Robert T. Lincoln, dated 17 Sept. 1892, describing it as

“The M.S. is a note made in preparing for one of the speeches in the joint debate campaign between Mr. Douglas and my father in 1858. The campaign was for a seat in the United States Senate, and the political issue was the extension of the system of Slavery to the free Territories of our country. My father could little imagine when writing that in less than five years a Proclamation under his own signature would not only end all question of the extension of Slavery to the free Territories of the United States, but would free all the slaves in all the States.”

All this is not the result of accident— It has a philosophical cause— Without the *Constitution* and the *Union*, we could not have attained the result; but even these, are not the primary cause of our great prosperity— There is something back of these, entwining itself more closely about the human heart— That something, is the principle of “Liberty to all”—the principle that clears the *path* for all—gives *hope* to all—and, by consequence, *enterprize*, and *industry* to all.

The *expression* of that principle, in our Declaration of Independence, was most happy, and fortunate— *Without* this, as well as *with* it, we could have declared our independence of Great Britain; but *without* it, we could not, I think, have secured our free government, and consequent prosperity— No oppressed, people will *fight*, and *endure*, as our fathers did, without the promise of something better, than a mere change of masters—

The assertion of that *principle*, at *that time*, was *the word*, “*fitly spoken*” which has proved an “apple of gold” to us— The *Union*, and the *Constitution*, are the *picture of silver*, subsequently framed around it— The picture was made, not to *conceal*, or *destroy* the apple; but to *adorn*, and *preserve* it— The *picture* was made *for* the apple—not the apple for the picture—

So let us act, that neither *picture*, or *apple* shall ever be blurred or bruised or broken—

That we may so act, we must study, and understand the points of danger—

Springfield, Ill. Jan. 25, 1858.

A. CAMPBELL,

In 1857 you gave me authority to draw on you for any sum not exceeding \$500. I see clearly that such a privilege would be more available now than it was then.

I am aware that these times are lighter now than they were then. Please write me at all events, and whether you can now do anything or not, I shall continue grateful for the past.

Yours very truly,
A. LINCOLN.

Urbana, Ills., April 23, 1858.

HON. T. A. MARSHALL,

Charleston, Ill.

My dear Sir:—

I wish you, G. W. Rives of Edgar and O. L. Davis of Vermilion to co-operate in getting a Senatorial candidate on the track, in your district— Davis is here and agrees to do his part. The adversary has his eye upon that district, and will beat us, unless we also are wide awake. Under the circumstances a District Convention may or may not be the best way—you three to be judge of that. I think you had better take some good reliable Fillmore men into conference with you, and also some person or persons from Cumberland. Indeed, it may appear expedient to select a Fillmore man as a candidate. I also write to Rives. I am most anxious to know that you will not neglect the matter, not doubting that you will do it rightly if you only take hold of it.

I was in Springfield during the sittings of the two Democratic Conventions day before yesterday. Say what they will, they are having an abundance of trouble. Our own friends were also there, in considerable numbers from different parts of the state. They are all in high spirits and think, if we do not win, it will be our own fault— So I really think.

Your friend as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, May 11 1858.

JOSEPH MEARS

Dear Sir

The statements made within, if true, are evidence of *fraud* on the part of the executor in selling the land— Fraud, by the principles of law, invalidates everything. To get rid of this sale, a bill in chancery is to be filed, charging the fraud, and then, if the fraud can be *proved* the sale will be set aside— This is all that can be said— Any lawyer will know how to do it.

Yours &c.

A. LINCOLN.

Judge Franklin Blades, physician and lawyer, writes:

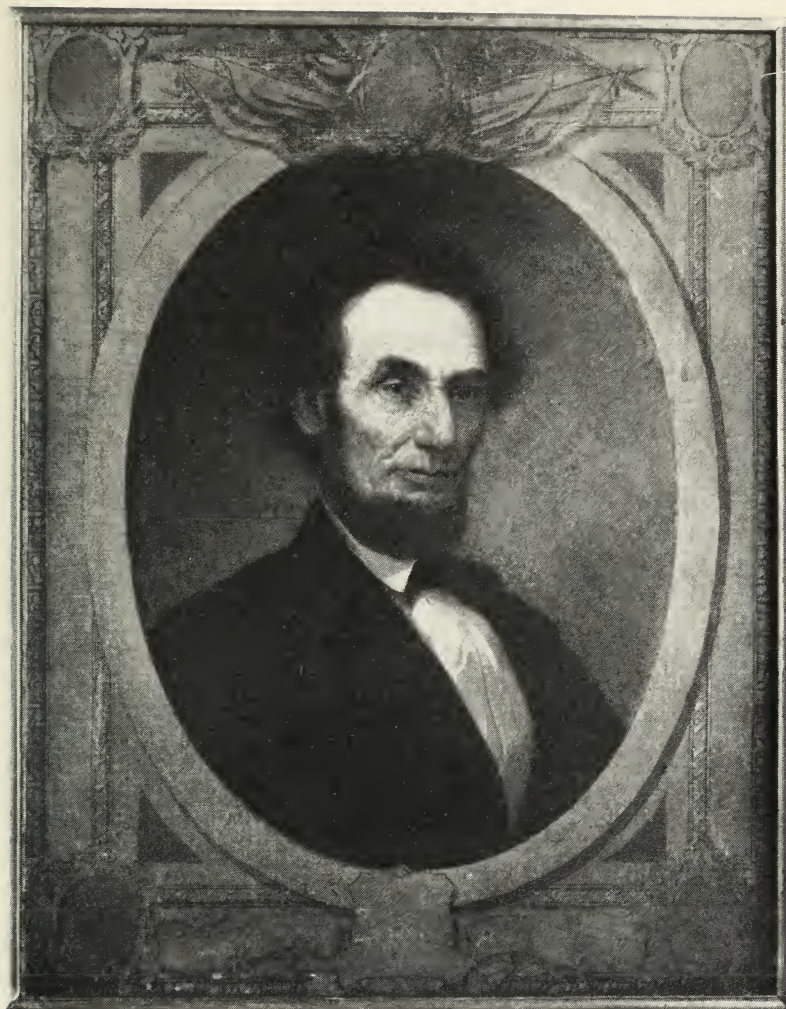
In the spring of 1858 having been admitted to the bar, and intending to give up the profession of medicine, I wrote to Mr. Lincoln requesting the use of his name as a reference on my professional card as a lawyer. He had known me as a physician, and in writing him I said nothing about my change of profession, and so in replying he seemed to be in doubt as to whether I was the same Blades he had known. So he wrote:

I do not know whether you are Dr. Blades or not. If you are Dr. Blades, you may use my name; if you are not Dr. Blades, if Dr. Blades says you may use my name, you may do so.

Springfield, June 4, 1858.

M. H. GRAY, Esq.

Dear Sir—Yours of the 31st of May, accompanied by a printed notice of your Clinton county meeting, is just received. The U. S. court commences its summer term here the day before your meeting, and morally speaking, it is impossible for me to leave. I hope and believe you will not be without able and interesting speakers. The delegates you appoint will meet a large and good convention here on the 11th. Our prospects appear cheering everywhere. I think it only needs that those who feel that our position is right should stand firm, and be active, when action is needed.



Portrait by William E. Marshall
(In the Possession of the New York Historical Society)

Thanking you for your kind invitation, allow me to subscribe myself,

Your friend,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, June 10, 1858.

SAMUEL WILKINSON, ESQ.

My dear Sir:

Yours of the 26th May came to hand only last night. I *know* of no effort to unite the Reps. and Buc. men, and *believe* there is none. Of course the Republicans do not try to keep the common enemy from dividing; but, as far as I *know*, or *believe*, they will not unite with either branch of the division. Indeed it is difficult for me to see on what ground they could unite; but it is useless to spend words; there is simply nothing of it. It is a trick of our enemies to try to excite all sorts of suspicions and jealousies amongst us. We hope that our Convention on the 16th bringing us together, and letting us hear each other talk will put an end to most of this.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, June 11, 1858.

W. H. LAMON, ESQ.:

My dear Sir,—Yours of the 9th written at Joliet is just received. Two or three days ago I learned that McLean had appointed delegates in favor of Lovejoy, and thenceforward I have considered his renomination a fixed fact. My *opinion*—if my opinion is of any consequence in this case, in which it is no business of mine to interfere—remains unchanged, that running an independent candidate against Lovejoy will not do; that it will result in nothing but disaster all round. In the first place, whoever so runs will be beaten and will be spotted for life; in the second place, while the race is in progress, he will be under the strongest temptation to trade with the Democrats, and to favor the election of certain of their friends to the Legislature; thirdly, I shall be held responsible for it, and Republican members of the Legislature, who are partial to Lovejoy, will for that purpose oppose us; and, lastly, it will in the end lose us the District altogether. There is

no safe way but a convention; and if in that convention, upon a common platform which all are willing to stand upon, one who has been known as an Abolitionist, but who is now occupying none but common ground, can get the majority of the votes to which *all* look for an election, there is no safe way but to submit.

As to the inclination of some Republicans to favor Douglas, that is one of the chances I have to run, and which I intend to run with patience.

I write in the court room. Court has opened, and I must close.

(Signed)

Yours as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, June 24, 1858.

H. C. WHITNEY.

Your letter enclosing the attack of the "Times" upon me was received this morning. Give yourself no concern about my voting against the supplies, unless you are without faith that a lie can be successfully contradicted. There is not a word of truth in the charge and I am just considering a little as to the best shape to put a contradiction in . . .

Springfield, June 25 1858.

J. MEDILL, Esq.

My dear Sir

Your note of the 23rd did not reach me till last evening— The Times article I saw yesterday morning— I will give you a brief history of facts, upon which you may rely with entire confidence, and from which you can frame such articles or paragraphs as you see fit.

I was in Congress but a single term— I was a candidate when the Mexican war broke out—and I then took the ground, which I never varied from, that the Administration had done wrong in getting us into the war, but that the Officers and Soldiers who went to the field must be supplied and sustained at all events— I was elected the first Monday of August 1846, but, in regular course, only took my seat December 6, 1847— In the interval all the battles had been fought, and the war was substantially ended, though our army was still in Mexico, and the treaty of peace was

not finally concluded till May 30, 1848— Col. E. D. Baker had been elected to Congress from the same district, for the regular term next preceding mine; but having gone to Mexico himself, and having resigned his seat in Congress, a man by the name of John Henry, was elected to fill Baker's vacancy, and so came into Congress before I did— On the 23rd day of February 1847 (the very day I believe, Col. John Hardin was killed at Buena Vista, and certainly more than nine months before I took a seat in Congress) a bill corresponding with great accuracy to that mentioned by the Times, passed the House of Representatives, and *John Henry* voted against it as may be seen in the Journal of that session at pages 406-7— The bill became a law, and is found in the U. S. Statutes at Large— Vol. 9, page 149—

This I suppose is the real origin of the Times' attack upon me— In its blind rage to assail me, it has seized on a vague recollection of Henry's vote, and appropriated it to me— I scarcely think any one is quite vile enough to make such a charge in such terms, without some slight belief in the truth of it—

Henry was my personal and political friend; and, as I thought, a very good man; and when I first learned of that vote, I well remember how astounded and mortified I was— This very bill, voted against by Henry, passed into a law, and made the appropriation for the year ending June 30, 1848—extending a full month beyond the actual and formal ending of the war— When I came into Congress, money was needed to meet the appropriations made, and to be made; and accordingly on the 17th day of Feb. 1848, a bill to borrow 18,500,000—passed the House of Representatives, for which I voted, as will appear by the Journal of that session page 426, 427— The act itself, reduced to 16,000,000 (I suppose in the Senate) is found in U. S. Statutes at Large Vol. 9-217—

Again, on the 8th of March 1848, a bill passed the House of Representatives, for which I voted as may be seen by the Journal 520-521 It passed into a law, and is found in U. S. Statute at Large Page 215 and forward— The last section of the act, on page 217—contains an appropriation of 800,000—for clothing the volunteers—

It is impossible to refer to all the votes I gave but the above I think are sufficient as specimens; and you may safely deny that

I ever gave any vote for withholding any supplies whatever, from officers or soldiers of the Mexican War. I have examined the Journals a good deal; and besides I can not be mistaken; for I had my eye always upon it— I must close to get this into the mail—

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, July 25. 1858.

HON. G. KOERNER

My dear Sir,

Yours of late date was duly received— Many Germans here are anxious to have Mr. Hecker come; but I suppose your judgement is best— I write this mostly because I learn we are in great danger in Madison— It is said half the Americans are going for Douglas; and that slam will ruin us if not counteracted— It appears to me this fact of itself, would make it, at least no harder for us to get accessions from the Germans. We must make a special job of Madison— Every edge must be made to cut— Can not you, Canisius, and some other influential Germans set a plan on foot that shall gain us accession from the Germans, and see that, at the election, none are cheated in their ballots?—Gillespie thinks that thing is sometimes practiced on the German in Madison— Others of us must find the way to save as many Americans as possible— Still others must do other things— Nothing must be left undone— Elsewhere things look reasonably well— Please write me.

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

August 2, 1858.

JOSEPH J. GILLESPIE:

I should be with Judge Douglas at your town on the 11th had he not strongly intimated in his published letter that my presence would be considered an intrusion— I shall soon publish a string of appointments following on his present tack which will bring me to Edwardsville about the 13th of Sept.

On Saturday I accidentally heard old A. G. Herndon remark

that they had got to their new Buchanan paper here forty subscribers from Montgomery County— This last for yourself only—

Yours as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. Aug. 3, 1858

HON: D. S. DICKINSON

Sir

In March 1857 I saw upon the Railroad train, being taken from Chicago to Alton, to the Penitentiary there, a man of gentlemanly appearance by the name of Hyde— He accosted me and conversed some as to the chance of obtaining a pardon— A year after he addressed me the inclosed letter from the prison— You see he mentions your name— Do you really know him? If our Governor could learn that he has been respectable, and is of respectable connections, perhaps he would pardon him— Please answer—

Pardon the liberty I take in addressing you— Several years ago I knew you slightly at Washington—

Your Obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

August 12, 1858, Mr. Lincoln delivered an address at Beardstown during his campaign for election to the United States senate, which was essentially directed against the Know-Nothing party and the other bigots of that time. In his speech, Mr. Lincoln expounded a spirit of true Americanism, based upon the principles embodied in the Declaration of Independence, and in his defense of these principles—his greatest inspiration—he was tremendous in the directness of his utterances, and his soul was inspired with the thought of human right and divine justice.

A SPEECH FOR TOLERANCE

A part of that speech follows:

My countrymen, if you have been taught doctrines conflicting with the great landmarks of the Declaration of Independence; if you have listened to suggestions which would take away from its grandeur and mutilate the fair symmetry of its proportions; if

you have been inclined to believe that all men are not created equal in those inalienable rights enumerated in our chart of liberty, let me entreat you to come back! Return to the fountain whose waters spring close by the blood of the Revolution. You may do anything with me you choose, if you will but heed these sacred principles. I charge you to drop every paltry and insignificant thoughts of any man's success. It is nothing; I am nothing; Judge Douglas is nothing. But do not destroy that immortal emblem of humanity—the Declaration of Independence. . . .

They by their representatives in old Independence hall said to the whole race of men: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." This was their majestic interpretation of the economy of the universe. This was their lofty, and wise, and noble understanding of the justice of the Creator to His creatures—yes, gentlemen, to all His creatures, to the whole great family of men. In their enlightened belief, nothing stamped with the divine image and likeness was sent into the world to be trodden on and degraded and imbruted by its fellows. They grasped not only the whole race of men then living, but they reached forward and seized upon the farthest posterity.

. . . Wise statesmen as they were, they knew the tendency of prosperity to breed tyrants, so they established these great self-evident truths, that when in the distant future some man, some faction, some interest should set up a doctrine that none but rich men, none but white men, or none but Anglo-Saxon white men were entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, their posterity might look up again to the Declaration of Independence and take courage to renew the battle where their fathers began.

The *Chicago Tribune* gives the following extracts from "Abe Lincoln's" speech at Havana (Ill.) on the 13th inst:

A QUESTION OF MUSCLE

"I am informed [said he] that my distinguished friend yesterday became a little excited—nervous, perhaps—[laughter]—and he said something about *fighting*, as though referring to a pugilis-

tic encounter between him and myself. Did anybody in this audience hear him use such language? [Cries of yes.] I am informed, further, that somebody in *his* audience, rather more excited or nervous than himself, took off his coat, and offered to take the job off Judge Douglas's hands, and fight Lincoln himself. Did anybody here witness that warlike proceeding? [Laughter, and cries of yes.] Well, I merely desire to say that I shall fight neither Judge Douglas nor his second. [Great laughter.] I shall not do this for two reasons, which I will now explain. In the first place, a fight would *prove* nothing which is in issue in this contest. It might establish that Judge Douglas is a more muscular man than myself, or it might demonstrate that I am a more muscular man than Judge Douglas. But this question is not referred to in the Cincinnati platform, nor in either of the Springfield platforms. [Great laughter.] Neither result would prove him right or me wrong. And so of the gentleman who volunteered to do his fighting for him. If my fighting Judge Douglas would not prove anything, it would certainly prove nothing for me to fight his bottleholder. [Continued laughter.]

"My second reason for not having a personal encounter with the Judge is, that I don't believe he wants it himself. [Laughter.] He and I are about the best friends in the world, and when we get together he would no more think of fighting me than of fighting his wife. Therefore, ladies and gentlemen, when the Judge talked about fighting, he was not giving vent to any ill-feeling of his own, but merely trying to excite—well, *enthusiasm* against me on the part of his audience. And as I find he was tolerably successful, we will call it quits." [Cheers and laughter.]

"TWO UPON ONE"

"One other matter of trifling consequence," continued Mr. Lincoln, "and I will proceed. I understand that Judge Douglas yesterday referred to the fact that both Judge Trumbull and myself are making speeches throughout the state to beat him for the Senate, and that he tried to create a sympathy by the suggestion that this was playing *two upon one* against him. It is true that Judge Trumbull has made a speech in Chicago, and I believe he intends to co-operate with the Republican Central Committee in their arrangements for the campaign to the extent of

making other speeches in different parts of the state. Judge Trumbull is a Republican, like myself, and he naturally feels a lively interest in the success of his party. Is there anything wrong about that? But I will show you how little Judge Douglas's appeal to your sympathies amounts to. At the next general election, two years from now, a Legislature will be elected which will have to choose a successor to Judge Trumbull. Of course there will be an effort to fill his place with a democrat. This person, whoever he may be, is probably out making stump speeches against me, just as Judge Douglas is. It may be one of the present Democratic members of the lower house of Congress—but whoever he is, I can tell you he has got to make some stump speeches now, or his party will not nominate him for the seat occupied by Judge Trumbull. Well, are not Judge Douglas and this man playing *two upon one* against me just as much as Judge Trumbull and I are playing *two upon one* against Judge Douglas? [Laughter.] And if it happens that there are two democratic aspirants for Judge Trumbull's place, are they not playing *three upon one* against me, just as we are playing *two upon one* against Judge Douglas?" [Renewed laughter.]

The Court instructs the jury—

That if they have any reasonable doubt as to whether Metzker came to his death by the blow on the eye, or by the blow on the back of the head, they are to find the defendant "Not guilty" unless they also believe from the evidence, beyond reasonable doubt, that *Armstrong* and *Norris acted by concert*, against Metzker, and that Norris struck the blow on the back of the head.

That if they believe from the evidence that Norris killed Metzker, they are to acquit Armstrong, unless they also believe beyond a reasonable doubt that Armstrong acted in concert with Norris in the killing, or purpose to kill or hurt Metzker—

Danville, Ill., Sept. 23, 1858.

HON. N. B. JUDD:

My Dear Sir: We had a fine and altogether satisfactory meeting here yesterday. Our friends here wish a German speaker, be-

fore the election. Can't you send one? Address Dr. W. Fithian, and set a time sufficiently distant to give full notice. I am behind in general news; and this is a bad point to get any. Still I believe we have got the gentleman, unless they overcome us by fraudulent voting. We must be especially prepared for this. It must be taken into anxious consideration at once. How can it be done? Men imported from other states and men not naturalized can be fought out; but if they should string out the qualified Irish voters of Chicago (for instance) into a doubtful district, having them to swear to an actual residence when they offer to vote, how can we prevent it? Is "Long John" at hand? His genius should be employed on this question. Tell him so for me. I do not mean by this that the rest of us are to dismiss the question. It is a great danger, and we must all attend to it.

Yours as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Oct. 18, 1858.

HON. J. N. BROWN

My dear Sir

I do not perceive how I can express myself, more plainly, than I have done in the foregoing extracts— In four of them I have expressly disclaimed all intention to bring about social and political equality between the white and black races, and, in all the rest, I have done the same thing by clear implication

I have made it equally plain that I think the negro is included in the word "men" used in the Declaration of Independence—

I believe the declaration that "all men are created equal" is the great fundamental principle upon which our free institutions rest; that negro slavery is violative of that principle; but that, by our form of government, that principle has not been made one of legal obligation; that by our form of government, the states which have slavery are to retain it, or surrender it at their own pleasure; and that all others—individuals, free-states and national government—are constitutionally bound to leave them alone about it—

I believe our government was thus framed because of the *necessity* springing from the actual presence of slavery, when it was framed—

That such necessity does not exist in the territories, where slavery is not present—

In his Mendenhall speech Mr. Clay says

“Now, as an abstract principle, there is no doubt of the truth of that declaration (all men created equal) and it is desirable, in the original construction of society, and in organized societies, to keep it in view, as a great fundamental principle.”

Again, in the same speech Mr. Clay says:

“If a state of nature existed, and we were about to lay the foundations of society, no man would be more strongly opposed than I should to incorporate the institution of slavery among its elements.”

Exactly so— In our new free territories, a state of nature *does* exist— In them Congress lays the foundations of society; and, in laying those foundations, I say, with Mr. Clay, it is desirable that the declaration of the equality of all men shall be kept in view, as a great fundamental principle; and that Congress, which lays the foundations of society, should, like Mr. Clay, be strongly opposed to the incorporation of slavery among its elements—

But it does not follow that social and political equality between whites and blacks, *must* be incorporated, because slavery must *not*— The declaration does not so require—

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

The following extracts are taken from various speeches of mine delivered at various times and places; and I believe they contain the substance of all I have ever said about “negro equality.” The first three are from my answer to Judge Douglas, Oct. 16, 1854—at Peoria—

(1) This is the *repeal* of the Missouri Compromise. The foregoing history may not be precisely accurate in every particular; but I am sure it is sufficiently so, for all the uses I shall attempt to make of it, and in it, we have before us, the chief materially enabling us to correctly judge whether the repeal of the Missouri Compromise is right or wrong.

I think, and shall try to show, that it is wrong; wrong in its

direct effect, letting slavery into Kansas and Nebraska—and wrong in its prospective principle, allowing it to spread to every other part of the wide world, where men can be found inclined to take it.

This *declared* indifference, but as I must think, covert *real* zeal for the spread of slavery, I can not but hate. I hate it because of the monstrous injustice of slavery itself. I hate it because it deprives our republican example of its just influence in the world—enables the enemies of free institutions, with plausibility, to taunt us as hypocrites—causes the real friends of freedom to doubt our sincerity and especially because it forces so many really good men amongst ourselves into an open war with the very fundamental principles of civil liberty—criticising the Declaration of Independence, and insisting that there is no right principle of action but *self-interest*.

Before proceeding, let me say I think I have no prejudice against the Southern people. They are just what we would be in their situation. If slavery did not now exist amongst them, they would not introduce it. If it did now exist amongst us, we should not instantly give it up.—This I believe of the masses north and south.—Doubtless there are individuals on both sides, who would not hold slaves under any circumstances; and others who would gladly introduce slavery anew, if it were out of existence. We know that some southern men do free their slaves, go north, and become tip-top abolitionists; while some northern ones go south, and become most cruel slave-masters.

When southern people tell us they are no more responsible for the origin of slavery, than we: I acknowledge the fact. When it is said that the institution exists, and that it is very difficult to get rid of it, in any satisfactory way, I can understand and appreciate the saying. I surely will not blame them for not doing what I should not know how to do myself. If all earthly power were given me, I should not know what to do, as to the existing institution. My first impulse would be to free all the slaves, and send them to Liberia,—to their own native land. But a moment's reflection would convince me, that whatever of high hope, (as I think there is) there may be in this, in the long run, its sudden execution is impossible. If they were all landed there in a day, they would all perish in the next ten days; and there are not sur-

plus shipping and surplus money enough in the world to carry them there in many times ten days. What then? Free them all, and keep them among us as underlings? Is it quite certain that this betters their condition? I think I would not hold one in slavery, at any rate; yet the point is not clear enough to me to denounce people upon. What next?—Free them, and make them politically and socially, our equals? My own feelings will not admit of this; and if mine would, we well know that those of the great mass of white people will not. Whether this feeling accords with justice and sound judgment, is not the sole question, if indeed, it is any part of it. A universal feeling, whether well or ill-founded, can not be safely disregarded. We can not, then, make them equals. It does seem to me that systems of gradual emancipation might be adopted; but for their tardiness in this, I will not undertake to judge our brethren of the south.

When they remind us of their constitutional rights, I acknowledge them, not grudgingly, but fully, and fairly; and I would give them any legislation for the reclaiming of their fugitives, which should not, in its stringency, be more likely to carry a free man into slavery, than our ordinary criminal laws are to hang an innocent one.

But all this; to my judgment, furnishes no more excuse for permitting slavery to go into our own free territory, than it would for reviving the African slave trade by law. The law which forbids the bringing of slaves *from* Africa; and that which has so long forbid the taking them *to* Nebraska, can hardly be distinguished on any moral principle; and the repeal of the former could find quite as plausible excuses as that of the latter.

(2) Judge Douglas frequently, with bitter irony and sarcasm, paraphrases our argument by saying “The white people of Nebraska are good enough to govern themselves, *but they are not good enough to govern a few miserable negroes!*”

Well I doubt not that the people of Nebraska are, and will continue to be as good as the average of people elsewhere. I do not say the contrary. What I do say is, that no man is good enough to govern another man, *without that other's consent*. I say this is the leading principle—the sheet anchor of American republicanism. Our Declaration of Independence says:

"We hold these truths to be self evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, DERIVING THEIR JUST POWERS FROM THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED."

I have quoted so much at this time merely to show that according to our ancient faith, the just power of governments are derived from the consent of the governed. Now the relation of masters and slaves is, *PROTANTO*, a total violation of this principle. The master not only governs the slave without his consent; but he governs him by a set of rules altogether different from those which he prescribes for himself. Allow *ALL* the governed an equal voice in the government, and that, and that only is self government.

Let it not be said I am contending for the establishment of political and social equality between the whites and blacks. I have already said the contrary. I am not now combating the argument of *NECESSITY*, arising from the fact that the blacks are already amongst us; but I am combating what is set up as *MORAL* argument for allowing them to be taken where they have never yet been—arguing against the *EXTENSION* of a bad thing, which where it already exists we must of necessity, manage as we best can.

(3) In the course of his reply, Senator Douglas remarked, in substance, that he had always considered this government was made for the white people and not for the negroes. Why, in point of mere fact, I think so too. But in this remark of the Judge, there is a significance, which I think is the key to the great mistake (if there is any such mistake) which he has made in this Nebraska measure. It shows that the Judge has no very vivid impression that the negro is a human; and consequently has no idea that there can be any moral question in legislating about him. In his view, the question of whether a new country shall be slave or free, is a matter of utter indifference, as it is whether his neighbor shall plant his farm with tobacco, or stock it with horned cattle. Now, whether this view is right or wrong, it is very certain that the great mass of mankind take a totally different view.—They consider slavery a great moral wrong; and their

feelings against it, is not evanescent, but eternal. It lies at the very foundation of their sense of justice; and it cannot be trifled with.—It is a great and durable element of popular action, and, I think, no statesman can safely disregard it.

The fourth extract is from a speech delivered June 26—1857, at Springfield—

(4) I think the authors of that notable instrument intended to include *all* men, but they did not intend to declare all men equal *in all respects*.—They did not mean to say all were equal in color, size, intellect, moral developments, or social capacity. They defined with tolerable distinctness, in what respects they did consider all men created equal—equal with “certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.” This they said, and this meant. They did not mean to assert the obvious untruth, that all were then actually enjoying that equality, nor yet, that they were about to confer it immediately upon them.—In fact they had no power to confer such a boon. They meant simply to declare the *right*, so that the *enforcement* of it might follow as fast as circumstances should permit.

They meant to set up a standard maxim for free society, which should be familiar to all, and revered by all; constantly looked to, constantly labored for, and even though never perfectly attained, constantly approximated, and thereby constantly spreading and deepening its influence and augmenting the happiness and value of life to all people of all colors everywhere. The assertion that “all men are created equal” was of no practical use in effecting our separation from Great Britain; and it was placed in the Declaration, not for that, but for future use. Its authors meant it to be as, thank God, it is now proving itself, a stumbling block to all those who in after times might seek to turn a free people back into the hateful paths of despotism. They knew the proneness of prosperity to breed tyrants, and they meant when such should re-appear in this fair land and commence their vocation they should find left for them at least one hard nut to crack.

The following marked 5—is from my speech at Chicago, July 10. 1858. Because garbled extracts are often taken from the speeches, I have given the whole which touches “negro equality.”

(5) We were often—more than once, at least—in the course of Judge Douglas' speech last night, reminded that this government was made for white men—that he believed it was made for white men! Well, that is putting it in a shape in which no one wants to deny it, but the Judge then goes into his passion for drawing inferences that are not warranted. I protest, now and forever, against that counterfeit logic which presumes that because I do not want a negro woman for a slave, I do necessarily want her for a wife. [Laughter and cheers.] My understanding is that I need not have her for either, but as God made us separate, we can leave one another alone, and do one another much good thereby.—There are white men enough to marry all the white women, and black men enough to marry all the black women, and in God's name let them be so married. The Judge regales us with the terrible enormities that take place by the mixture of races; that the inferior race bears the superior down. Why, Judge, if we will not let them get together in the Territories, they wont mix there. [Immense applause.]

A voice—"Three cheers for Lincoln."—[The cheers were given with a hearty good will.]

Mr. Lincoln—I should say at least that is a self-evident truth.

Now, it happens that we meet together once every year, sometime about the 4th of July, for some reason or other. These 4th of July gatherings, I suppose, have their uses. If you will indulge me, I will state what I suppose to be some of them.

We are now a mighty nation, we are thirty—or about thirty millions of people, and we own and inhabit about a fifteenth part of the whole earth. We run our memory back over the pages of history for about eighty-two years and we discover that we were then a very small people in point of numbers, vastly inferior to what we are now, with a vastly less extent of country—with vastly less of every thing we deem desirable among men—we look upon the change as exceedingly advantageous to us and to our posterity, and we fix upon something that happened away back, as in some way or other being connected with this rise of prosperity. We find a race of men living at that day whom we claim as our fathers and grandfathers; they were iron men; they fought for the principle that they were contending for; and we understand that by what they then did it has followed that the degree of

prosperity that we now enjoy has come to us. We hold this annual celebration to remind ourselves of all the good done in this process of time, of how it was done and who did it, and how we are historically connected with it; and we go from these meetings in better humor with ourselves; we feel more attached the one to the other, and more firmly bound to the country we inhabit. In every way we are better men in the age, and race, and country in which we live for these celebrations. But after we have done all this we have not yet reached the whole. There is something else connected with it.—We have besides these men—descended by blood from our ancestors—among us perhaps half our people who are not descendants at all of these men; they are men who have come from Europe—German, Irish, French and Scandinavians—men that have come from Europe themselves or whose ancestors have come hither and settled here, finding themselves our equals in all things. If they look back through this history to trace their connections with those days by blood, they find they have none, they cannot carry themselves back into that glorious epoch and make themselves feel that they are part of us, but when they look through that old Declaration of Independence they find that those old men say that “We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal,” and then they feel that moral sentiment taught in that day evidences their relation to those men, that it is the father of all moral principle in them, and that they have a right to claim it as though they were blood of blood, and flesh of the flesh of the man who wrote that Declaration—[loud and long applause] and so they are. That is the electric cord in that Declaration links the hearts of patriotic and liberty-loving men together, that will link those patriotic hearts as long as the love of freedom exists in the minds of men throughout the world. [Applause.]

Now, sirs, for the purpose of squaring things with this idea of “don’t care if slavery is voted up or voted down,” for sustaining the Dred Scott decision, [A voice—“Hit him again,”] for holding that the Declaration of Independence did not mean anything at all; we have Judge Douglas giving his exposition of what the Declaration of Independence means, and we have him saying it means simply that the people of America were equal to the people of England. According to his construction, you Germans are not

in the history of States, and Nations, there is no other
way for the first in the world, an attempt has
been made to construct a new Nation, upon the basis of, and
the primary, and fundamental object to maintain, enlarge,
and perpetuate human slavery, therefore.

Resolved, that no such
State should ever be recognized by, or admitted
into the family of Christian and civilized nations; and
that all Christian and civilized men everywhere should
use every lawful means, resist to the utmost, such recogni-
tion or admission.

I have from a letter from the Hon. Chas Sumner, dated Washington April 17. 1863

Two days ago the President sent for me to come to his office.
When I arrived, he said that, he had been thinking of a
matter on which we had then spoken, the way in which
English Garrison should be directed, & that he had drawn
up a resolution embodying the ideas which he should
hope to see adopted by public meetings in England.
I enclose the resolution in his autograph as he gave it to
me. He thought it might serve to suggest the point
which he regarded as important."

John Bright
April 19. 1863

Executive Mansion,
Washington.

Resolution Transmitted to John Bright by Charles Sumner

connected with it. Now I ask you in all soberness, if all these things, if indulged in, if ratified, if confirmed and indorsed, if taught to our children and repeated to them, do not tend to rub out the sentiment of liberty in the country, and to transform this government into a government of some other form? What are these arguments that are made, that the inferior race are to be treated with as much allowance as they are capable of enjoying; that as much is to be done for them as their condition will allow? They are the arguments that kings have made for enslaving the people in all ages of the world. You will find that all the arguments in favor of kingcraft were of this class; they always bestrode the necks of the people, not that they wanted to do it, but because the people were better off for being ridden. That is their argument and this argument of the Judge is the same old serpent that says you work and I eat, you toil and I will enjoy the fruits of it.

Turn it whatever way you will—whether it come from the mouth of a king, as excuse for enslaving the people of his country or from the mouth of men of one race as a reason for enslaving the men of another race, it is all the same old serpent, and I hold if that course of argumentation which is made for the purpose of convincing the public mind that we should not care about this, should be granted, it does not stop with the negro. I should like to know if taking this old Declaration of Independence, which declares that all men are equal upon principle and no making exception to it, where will it stop? If one man says it does not mean a negro, why may not another say it does not mean some other man? If that declaration is not truth let us get the statute book in which we find it and tear it out! Who is so bold as to do it? If it is not true let us bear it out! [Cries of “no, no.”] Let us stick to it then. [Cheers.] Let us stand firmly by it then. [Applause.]

It may be argued that there are certain conditions that make necessities and impose them upon us, and to the extent that a necessity is imposed upon a man he must submit to it.—I think that was the condition in which we found ourselves when we established the government. We had slaves among us, we could not get our constitution unless we permitted them to remain in slavery, we could not secure the good we did secure if we grasped for more, and having by necessity submitted to that much, it does not de-

stroy the principle that is the charter of our liberties. Let that charter stand as our standard.

My friend has said to me that I am a poor hand to quote Scripture. I will try it again, however. It is said in one of the admonitions of the Lord, "As your Father in Heaven is perfect, be ye also perfect." The Saviour, I suppose, did not expect that any human creature could be perfect as the Father in Heaven; but He said, "As your Father in Heaven is perfect, be you perfect." He set that up as a standard, and he who did most towards reaching that standard, attained the highest degree of moral perfection. So I say in relation to the principle that all men are created equal. Let it be as nearly reached as we can. If we cannot give freedom to every creature, let us do nothing that will impose slavery upon any other creature. [Applause.] Let us then turn this government back into the channel in which the framers of the Constitution originally placed it. Let us stand firmly by each other. If we do not do so we are turning in the contrary direction, which our friend Judge Douglas proposes—not intentionally—as working in the traces tending to make this a universal slave nation. [A voice—"that is so."] He is one that runs in that direction, and as such I resist him.

My friends, I have detained you about as long as I desired to do, and I have only to say, let us discard all this quibbling about this man and the other man—this race and that race and the other race being inferior, and therefore they must be placed in an inferior position—discarding the standard we have left us. Let us discard all these things, and unite as one people throughout this land, until we shall once more stand up declaring that all men are created equal.

My friends, I could not without launching off upon some new topic, which would detain you so long, continue to-night. [Cries of "go on."] I thank you for this most extensive audience which you have furnished me to-night. I leave you, hoping that the lamp of liberty will burn in your bosoms until there shall no longer be a doubt that all men are created free and equal.

[Mr. Lincoln retired amid a perfect torrent of applause and cheers.]

The following marked 6, was brought in immediately, after reading the first extract in this scrap-book, in the first joint meeting with Judge Douglas, Aug—21—1858 at Ottawa—

(6) Now gentlemen, I don't want to read at any greater length, but this is the true complexion of all I have ever said in regard to the institution of slavery and the black race. This is the whole of it, and anything that argues me into his idea of perfect social and political equality with the negro, is but a specious and fantastic arrangement of words, by which a man can prove a horse chestnut to be a chestnut horse. [Laughter.] I will say here, while upon this subject, that I have no purpose directly or indirectly to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so. I have no purpose to introduce political and social equality between the white and the black races. There is a physical difference between the two, which in my judgment will probably forever forbid their living together upon the footing of perfect equality, and inasmuch as it becomes a necessity that there must be a difference. I, as well as Judge Douglas, am in favor of the race to which I belong, having the superior position. I have never said anything to the contrary, but I hold that notwithstanding all this, there is no reason in the world why the negro is not entitled to all the natural rights enumerated in the Declaration of Independence, the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. [Loud cheers.] I hold that he is as much entitled to these as the white man. I agree with Judge Douglas he is not my equal in many respects—certainly not in color, perhaps not in moral or intellectual endowment. But in the right to eat the bread, without leave of anybody else, which his own hand earns, *he is my equal and the equal of Judge Douglas, and the equal of every living man.* [Great applause.]

The following, marked 7 is from my speech in the fourth joint meeting, Sep. 18. 1858 at Charleston—

(7) While I was at the hotel to-day an elderly gentleman called upon me to know whether I was really in favor of producing a perfect equality between the negroes and white people. [Great

laughter.] While I had not proposed to myself on this occasion to say much on that subject, yet as the question was asked me I thought I would occupy perhaps five minutes in saying something in regard to it. I will say then that I am not, nor ever have been in favor of bringing about in any way the social and political equality of the white and black races, [applause]—that I am not nor ever have been in favor of making voters or jurors of negroes, nor of qualifying them to hold office, nor to intermarry with white people; and I will say in addition to this that there is a physical difference between the white and black races which I believe will for ever forbid the two races living together on terms of social and political equality. And inasmuch as they cannot so live, while they do remain together there must be the position of superior and inferior, and I as much as any other man am in favor of having the superior position assigned to the white race. I say upon this occasion I do not perceive that because the white man is to have the superior position the negro should be denied everything. I do not understand that because I do not want a negro woman for a slave I must necessarily want her for a wife. [Cheers and laughter.] My understanding is that I can just let her alone. I am now in my fiftieth year, and I certainly never have had a black woman for either a slave or a wife. So it seems to me quite possible for us to get along without making either slaves or wives of negroes. I will add to this that I have never seen to my knowledge a man, woman or child who was in favor of producing a perfect equality, social and political, between negroes and white men. I recollect of but one distinguished instance that I ever heard of so frequently as to be entirely satisfied of its correctness—and that is the case of Judge Douglas' old friend Col. Richard M. Johnson. [Laughter.] I will also add to the remarks I have made, (for I am not going to enter at large upon this subject,) that I have never had the least apprehension that I or my friends would marry negroes if there was no law to keep them from it, [laughter] but as Judge Douglas and his friends seem to be in great apprehension that they might, if there were no law to keep them from it, [roars of laughter] I give him the most solemn pledge that I will to the very last stand by the law of this State, which forbids the marrying of white people with negroes. [Continued laughter and applause.] I will add one further word, which is

this, that I do not understand there is any place where an alteration of the social and political relations of the negro and the white man can be made except in the State Legislature—not in the Congress of the United States—and as I do not really apprehend the approach of any such thing myself, and as Judge Douglas seems to be in constant horror that some such danger is rapidly approaching, I propose as the best means to prevent it that the Judge be kept at home and placed in the State Legislature to fight the measure. [Uproarious laughter and applause.] I do not propose dwelling longer at this time on this subject.

More than two months after the beginning of his campaign, Lincoln was still speaking almost daily. On October 20 he addressed a large meeting at Rushville, Schuyler County, and spoke in part as follows:

“I have intimated that I thought the agitation would not cease until a crisis should have been reached and passed. I have stated in what way I thought it would be reached and passed. I have said that it might go one way or the other. We might, by arresting the further spread of it, and placing it where the fathers originally placed it, put it where the public mind should rest in the belief that it was in the course of ultimate extinction. Thus the agitation might cease. It may be pushed forward until it shall become alike lawful in all the states, old as well as new, North as well as South. I have said, and I repeat, my wish is that the further spread of it may be arrested, and that it may be placed where the public mind shall rest in the belief that it is in the course of ultimate extinction. I have expressed that as my wish. I entertain the opinion upon evidence sufficient to my mind that the fathers of this government placed that institution where the public mind *did* rest in the belief that it was in the course of ultimate extinction. Let me ask why they made provision that the source of slavery—the African slave trade—should be cut off at the end of twenty years? Why did they make provision that in all the new territory we owned at that time it should be forever prohibited? Why stop its spread in one direction and cut off its source in another, if they did not look to its being placed in the course of ultimate extinction? . . .

It is not true that our fathers, as Judge Douglas assumes, made this government part slave and part free. Understand the sense in which he puts it. He assumes that slavery is a rightful thing within itself—was introduced by the framers of the constitution. The exact truth is, that they found the institution existing among us, and they left it as they found it. But in making the government they left this institution with many clear marks of disapprobation upon it. They found slavery among them and they left it among them because of the difficulty—the absolute impossibility of its immediate removal.

And when Judge Douglas asks me why we can not let it remain part slave and part free as the fathers of the government made, he asks a question based upon an assumption which is itself a falsehood; and I turn upon him and ask him the question, when the policy that the fathers of the government had adopted in relation to this element among us, was the best policy in the world—the only wise policy—the only policy that we can ever safely continue upon—that will ever give us peace unless this dangerous element masters us all and becomes a national institution—*I turn upon him and ask him why he could not let it alone?* I turn and ask him why he was driven to the necessity of introducing a *new policy* in regard to it? He has himself said he introduced a new policy. He said so in his speech on the 22d of March of the present year, 1858. I asked him why he could not let it remain where our fathers placed it? I ask, too, of Judge Douglas and his friends why we shall not again place this institution upon the basis on which the fathers left it? I ask you when he infers that I am in favor of setting the free and slave states at war, when the institution was placed in that attitude by those who made the constitution, *did they make any war?* If we had no war out of it when thus placed, wherein is the ground of belief that we shall have war out of it if we return to that policy? Have we had any peace upon this springing from any other basis? I maintain that we have not. I have proposed nothing more than a return to the policy of the fathers.

Twenty-two years ago Judge Douglas and I first became acquainted— We were both young then; he a trifle younger than I. Even then, we were both ambitious; I, perhaps, quite as much so

as he— With *me*, the race of ambition has been a failure—a flat failure; with *him*, it has been one of splendid success— His name fills the nation; and is not unknown, even, in foreign lands— I affect no contempt for the high eminence he has reached— So reached, that the oppressed of my species, might have shared with me in the elevation, I would rather stand on that eminence, than wear the richest crown that ever pressed a monarch's brow.

“Slavery is wrong,” he said, in a speech at Cincinnati, in the free State of Ohio, but in the immediate neighbourhood of the slave State of Kentucky, and to a mixed audience from both States. He was hissed for the words, and continued:—

“I acknowledge that you must maintain your opposition just there, if at all. But I find that every man comes into the world with a mouth to be fed and a back to be clothed; that each has also two hands, and I infer that those hands were meant to feed that mouth and to clothe that back. And I warn you, Kentuckians, that whatever institution would fetter those hands from so doing, violates that justice which is the only political wisdom, and is sure to tumble around those who seek to uphold it . . . Your hisses will not blow down the walls of justice. Slavery is wrong; the denial of that truth has brought on the angry conflict of brother with brother; it has kindled the fires of civil war in houses; it has raised the portents that overhang the future of our nation. And be you sure that no compromise, no political arrangement with slavery, will ever last, which does not deal with it as a great wrong.”

The above prophetic passage, which the timidity of Mr. Lincoln's party suppressed in the printed records of his speech, was noted down at the time by one who was latterly a political opponent of Mr. Lincoln (Mr. M. D. Conway, who has since reproduced it in the *Fortnightly Review*).

Blandonville, Oct. 24, 1858.

A. SYMPSON, Esq

Dear Sir

Since parting with you this morning I heard (sic) some things which make me believe that Edmunds and Morrell, will spend this week among the National democrats trying to induce them to content themselves by voting for Jake Davis, and then to vote for the Douglas candidates for Senator and Representative— Have this headed off, if you can— Call Wagley's attention to it, & have him and the National democrat for Rep. to counteract it as far as they can—

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

What will Douglas do now? He does not quite know himself— Like a skilful gambler he will play for all the chances— His first wish is to be the nominee of the Charleston Convention, without any new test— The democratic party proper do not wish to let it go just that way— They are thinking of getting up a Slave code test for him— They better not— Their true policy is to let him into the Convention, bear him then, and give him no plausible excuse to bolt the nomination—

But if they press the Slave code test upon him, he will not take it; but, as in the case of Lecompton, will appeal to the North on his bravery in offering it— True the logic of his position, as an indorser of the Dred Scott decision imperatively requires him to go the Slave code— Honestly believing in that decision, he can not, without perjury, refuse to go the Slave code— But he will refuse— He never lets the logic of principle, displace the logic of success— And then, when he thus turns again to the North, we shall have the Lecompton phase of politics reproduced on a larger scale— It will then be a question whether the Republican party of the Nation shall make him President, in magnanimous (sic) gratitude for having opposed a Slave code, just as it was, last year, a question whether the Illinois Republicans should re-elect him Senator, in magnanimous (sic) gratitude for having opposed Lecompton— Some larger gentlemen will then have a chance of swallowing the same pill which they somewhat persistently prescribed for us little fellows last year— I hope they will not swal-

low it— For the sake of the *cause*, rather than the *men*, I hope they will not swallow it— The Republican cause can not live by Douglas' position— His position, whether for or against a slave code, for or against Lecompton, leads inevitably to the nationalizing and perpetuity of slavery, and the Republican cause can not live by it— Dallying with Douglas is, at best, for Republicans, only loss of labor, and loss of time— Wander with him however long, at last they must turn back and strike for a policy, which shall deal with slavery as a wrong, restrain it's enlargement, and look to its termination—

The effort to prove that our fathers who framed the government under which we live, understood that a proper division of local from federal authority, and some provision of the Constitution, both forbid the federal government to control slavery in the federal territories, is as if, when a man stands before you, so that you see him, and lay your hand upon him, you should go about examining his tracks, and insisting therefore, that he is not present, but somewhere else— They *did*, through the federal government, control slavery in the federal territories (sic)— They did the identical thing, which D. insists they understood they ought not to do—

Negro equality! Fudge!! How long, in the government of a God, great enough to make and maintain this Universe, shall there continue knaves to vend, and fools to gulp, so low a price of demagoguism as this—

Mr. Barrett, owner of the following manuscript, writes that "this long-forgotten speech marks a turning point in Lincoln's career," and that "in its brief paragraphs the last echo of the politician is lost in the resonance of the clearer note of Lincoln the statesman." His defeat for the Senatorship "extinguished the last spark of ambition for political preferment but left him firm in his determination to carry on the contest against slavery."

"I have meant to assail the motives of no party or individual and if I have in any instance (of which I am not conscious) departed from my purpose, I regret it.

"I have said that in some respects the contest has been painful

to me. Myself and those with whom I act have been constantly accused of a purpose to destroy the Union; and bespattered with every imaginable odious epithet, and some who were friends, as it were, but yet have made themselves most active in this. I have cultivated patience and made no attempt at a retort.

"Ambition has been ascribed to me, God knows how sincerely I prayed from the first that this field of ambition might not be opened. I claim no insensibility to political honors, but today could the Missouri restriction be restored and the whole slavery question replaced on the old ground of toleration by necessity where it exists, with unyielding hostility to the spread of it, on principle, I would in consideration, gladly agree that Judge Douglas should never be out, and I never in, an office so long as we both or either live."

Never to be published—Herndon.

Springfield, Nov. 17, 1858.

MESSRS. S. C. DAVIS & Co.

Gentlemen:

You perhaps need not to be reminded how I have been personally engaged the last three or four months. Your letter to Lincoln & Herndon of Oct. 1st, complaining that the lands of those against whom we obtained judgments last Winter for you, have not been sold on execution has just been handed to me today. I will try to "explain how our" (your) "interests have been so much neglected," as you choose to express it. After those judgments were obtained we wrote you that under our law the selling of land on execution is a delicate and dangerous matter; that it could not be done safely without a careful examination of titles, and also of the value of the property. Our letters to you will show this—to do this work would require a canvas of half the State. We were puzzled, and you sent no definite instructions. At length we employed a young man to visit all the localities, and make as accurate a report on titles and values as he could. He did this, spending three or four weeks time, and as he said, over a hundred dollars of his own money in doing so. When this was done we wrote you, asking if we should sell and bid in for you in accordance with this information. This letter you never answered.

My mind is made up. I will have no more to do with this class

of business. I can do business in court, but I can not and will not, follow executions all over the world. The young man who collected the information for us is an active young lawyer living at Carrolton, Greene County, I think. We promised him a share of the compensation we should ultimately receive. He must be somehow paid; and I believe you would do well to turn the whole business over to him. I believe we have had, of legal fees, which you are to recover back from the defendants, one hundred dollars. I would not go through the same labor and vexation again for five hundred; still, if you will clear us of Mr. William Fishback (such is his name) we will be most happy to surrender to him, or to any other person you may name.

Yours, etc.,

A. LINCOLN.

This shall never be published—Herndon.

Springfield, Ill., November 19, 1858.

E. A. PAINE ESQ.

Dear Sir—

Well, the election is over and in the main point we are beaten; still my view is that the fight must go on. Let no one falter. The question is not half settled. New splits and divisions will soon be upon our adversaries and we shall have fun again.

Yours in haste,

A. LINCOLN.

Sp. Nov. 20 '58

DR. C. H. RAY

My dear Sir—I wish to preserve the set of late debates (if they may be called so), between Douglas and myself. To enable me to do so, please get 2 copies of each number of your paper, certainly the whole, and send them to me by express; and I will pay you for the papers and for your trouble. I wish the two sets in order to lay one away in the (undecipherable) and to put the other in the scrapbook. Remember, if any part of the debate is on *both* sides of the sheet it will take two sets to make the scrap book.

I believe, according to the letter of yours to Hatch, you are feeling like h—ll yet. Quiet that—you will soon feel better. Another “blow up” is coming; and we shall have fun again. Douglas

managed to be supported, both as the best instrument to *put down* and to *uphold* the slave power; but no ingenuity can long keep the antagonism in harmony. Yours as ever,

A. LINCOLN—

Springfield, Nov. 20, 1858

M. M. INMAN, Esq

My dear Sir

Your very kind letter of the 9th was duly received— I shall duly consider it's contents— The fight must go on— We are right, and can not finally fail— There will be another blow-up in the so-called democratic party before long— In the meantime, let all Republicans stand fast by their guns—

Your truly

A. LINCOLN.

This Indenture made this eleventh day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and fiftyfour, by and between Ritta D. Sylva, of the City of Springfield, County of Sangamon, and State of Illinois, of the one part; and Abraham Lincoln, of the City, County and State aforesaid of the other part, Witnesseth—

That the said Ritta D. Sylva, for, and in consideration of the sum of one hundred and twentyfive dollars, to her in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, has granted, bargained, and sold; and by these presents does grant, bargain and sell unto the said Abraham Lincoln, his heirs and assigns forever, the following described lot of ground, to wit: Lot Five, in Block Six, in Wells & Peck's addition to the late town, now City, of Springfield, Illinois—

To have and to hold to the said Abraham Lincoln, his heirs and assigns forever, the above described lot of ground, together with all and singular the privileges (sic) and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or to belong—

Yet upon condition that whereas the said Ritta D. Sylva has executed her promissory note of even date herewith, for the sum of one hundred and twentyfive dollars, with interest at the rate of ten per cent per annum, payable to the said Abraham Lincoln, Four year after date—interest payable annually— Now, if said

note shall be paid according to its tenor and effect, the above conveyance is to be null and void; otherwise to remain in full force and effect—

In testimony whereof the said Ritta D. Sylva, has hereunto set her hand and seal the day and year above written—

RITTA ANGELICA DA SYLVA [Seal]

Satisfied in full. Nov. 24, 1858.

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Dec. 2, '58.

JAS. THORNTON.

I am absent altogether too much to be a suitable instructor for the law student. When a man has reached the age that Mr. Widner has, and has already been doing for himself, my judgment is, that he read the books for himself, without an instructor—That is precisely the way I came to the law— Let Mr. Widner read (Blackstone, Chitty, Grulf) get a license, and go to practice, and still keep ready. That is my judgment . . the cheapest, quickest and best way for Mr. Widner to make a lawyer of himself.

Yours truly

A. L.

Dec (?) '58— the progress of society now begins to produce cases of the transfer for debts of the entire property of railroad corporations; and to enable transferees to use and enjoy the transferred property *legislation* and *adjudication* begin to be necessary— It is said that under the general law, whenever the Railroad Company gets tired of its debts, it may transfer *fraudulently* to get rid of them. So they may, so may individuals; and what—the Legislature or the courts—is best suited to try the question of fraud in either case? It is said if purchaser have acquired legal rights, let him not be robbed of them, but if he needs legislation, let him submit to just terms to obtain it. Let him, say we, have general law in advance (guarding in every possible way against fraud) so that, when he acquires the legal right, he will have no occasion to wait for additional legislation; and if he has practiced fraud, let the courts so decide.

Springfield, Dec. 19, 1858.

WILLIAM FISHBACK, ESQ.

My Dear Sir:

Yours of the 1st to C. M. Smith, has been handed me to answer. Soon after the political campaign closed here, Messrs. S. C. Davis and Co. wrote us, rather complaining their lands had not been sold upon the executions. I answered them, saying it was their own fault, as they never answered after we informed them of the work you had done. I also informed them that in the future we would not follow executions, and requested them to pay you for what you already had done and transfer all the business in our hands to you. They replied they would do so; but by that time we had learned that you were gone—very reluctantly I had to write them that you were gone, and that we must renew our effort to collect the money on their executions. And so we have pitched into it again. To my regret I find that I have either lost your letters or your researches did not go so far as I thought. I find nothing about the case at Browning in Schuyler county.

We drew on S. C. Davis and company for \$100 and send you the proceeds.

Unless your prospects are flattering where you are, or your health will not permit, I wish you would return and take charge of the business. With the general chances of a young man and additional business of the same sort which we could from time put in your hands, I feel confident that you could make a living.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

In 1859; Lincoln's speech on formation of the Republican party—

“Upon those men who are, in sentiment, opposed to the spread and nationalization of slavery, rests the task of preventing it. The Republican organization is the embodiment of that sentiment. The party is newly formed: and in forming, old party ties had to be broken, and the attractions of party pride and influential leaders are wholly wanting— In spite of old differences, prejudices, and animosities, its members were drawn together by a permanent common danger— They formed and manœvered in the face of the disciplined enemy, and, in the teeth of all his

persistent misrepresentations— Of course, they fell far short of gathering in all of their own— And yet, a year ago, they stood up, an army over thirteen hundred thousand strong— That army is today THE BEST HOPE OF THE NATION AND OF THE WORLD— Their work is before them; and FROM WHICH THEY MAY NOT GUILTLESSLY TURN AWAY.

Springfield, Ills. Jan. 3, 1859

DEAR AUNT

I have recently had two letters from our cousin Charles Case, in relation to your business— It annoys me to have to say that I can not collect money now— I now believe the quickest way I can get your money is for me to buy the debts of you, as soon as I can get in any money of my own to do it with. I keep some money loaned at ten per cent; and when I can get hold of some, it would be a ready investment for me to just take these debts off your hands; and I shall try to do so— I think it will be better all round than to resort to the law— This does not apply to the small debt of eighty odd dollars, upon which I shall sue and foreclose the mortgage next Court.

All well.

Yours as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill, Jany. 8, 1859.

W. H. WELLS, Esq.

My dear Sir:

Yours of the 3rd Inst. is just received.—I regret to say that the joint discussions between Judge Douglas and myself have been published in no shape except in the first newspaper reports; and that I have no copy of them, or even of the single one at Freeport, which I could send you. By dint of great labor since the election, I have got together a nearly (not quite) complete single set to preserve myself— I shall preserve your address, and if I can, in a reasonable time, lay my hand on an old paper containing the Freeport discussion, I will send it to you.—

All dallying with Douglas by Republicans, who are such at heart, is, at the very least, time and labor lost; and all such, who dally with him, will yet bite their lips in vexation for their

own folly.—His policy, which rigorously excludes all idea of there being any *wrong* in slavery, does lead inevitably to the nationalization of the Institution; and all who deprecate that consummation, and yet are seduced into his support, do but cut their own throats.—True, Douglas *has* opposed the administration on one measure, and yet *may* on some other; but while he upholds the Dred Scott decision, declares that he cares not whether slavery be voted down or voted up; that it is simply a question of dollars and cents, and that the Almighty has drawn a line on one side of which labor *must* be performed by slaves; to support him or Buchanan, is simply to reach the same goal by only slightly different roads.—

Very Respectfully

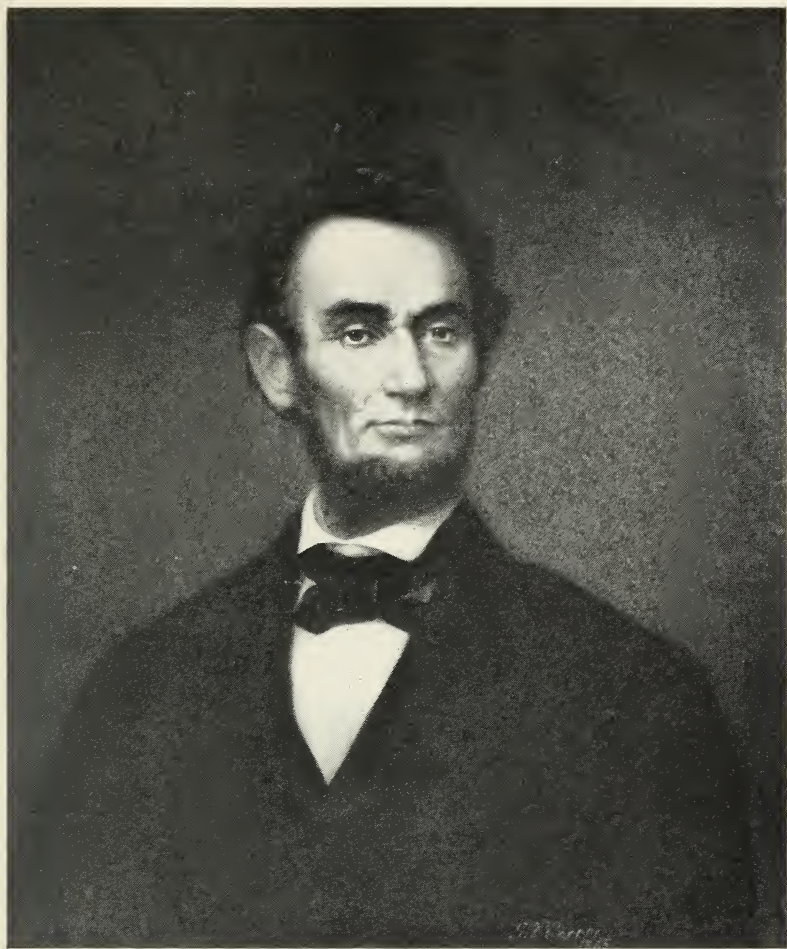
A. LINCOLN.

LEGAL OPINION

January 31, 1859

September 28, 1850, by an act of that date, Congress granted the whole of the “swamp and overflowed lands, made unfit thereby for cultivation” which remained unsold at that date, to the several States in which they were situated. By that act, upon the assumption that the data for doing so were in the Department of the Interior, the Secretary of that department was directed to make lists of those lands, and cause a patent to be issued for them to each State; and it was provided that the proceeds of said lands should be exclusively applied, so far as necessary, to the reclaiming of those lands by levees and drains—

June 22—1852, by an Act of that date, the Illinois Legislature adopted a system for the management of the Swamp lands, so granted, within the state— By this act the lands were granted to the counties respectively, and placed under their control with power to sell upon certain terms and limitations— Also by this Act the Surveyors of the several counties were to select and designate the swamp lands in their respective counties, which they did, generally taking all the unentered lands— Meanwhile, the United States Land Offices remaining open, and having nothing to guide them, individuals continued to purchase lands



Portrait by George V. Cooper
(In the Possession of A. E. Rueff, Brooklyn, N. Y.)

within them, in many instances the same tracts which had been selected by the Surveyors as Swamp lands—

The deficiency of *data* in the Department of the Interior by which to designate the Swamp-lands from other lands; the very liberal designations made by the County Surveyors and the numerous purchases made, and sought to be made, by individuals from the United States, of tracts claimed by the State as Swamp-land, led to much difficulty, confusion and embarrassment; even to the taking proof in the local Land Offices, whether particular tracts were or were not, in fact, Swamp land—

March 2, 1855 another Act of Congress was passed intended to mitigate, if not entirely overcome this difficulty.

No single patent, as seemed to be contemplated by the first named Act of Congress, ever issued; but on the 20th day of October 1856, a Patent issued to the Governor of Illinois, for the Swamp lands in the Dixon Land District, which District includes the county of *Bureau*.

April 28, 1856, the Board of Supervisors of Bureau County passed, and entered of record a set of resolutions for the sale of the swamp-lands within that county, of which resolutions the paper hereto attached, marked (A) contains true copies— In pursuance of those resolutions the Drainage Commissioner of that County, made sale of those lands to various purchasers, taking notes, and giving certificates to said purchasers, of which notes and certificates, the papers attached, marked respectively (B) and (C) are blank forms— Some of the purchasers *did*, and some did *not* present their certificates and receive bonds as indicated— The paper attached, marked (D) is a blank form of the bonds given, and ready to be given—

February 18, 1857, some question having been made as to the validity of this sale, the Illinois Legislature passed an act ratifying and confirming it—

March 3, 1857, Congress passed another act, confirming a certain selection of Swamp lands, and directing the same to be patented; which “selection” so confirmed, was in fact the same, for part of the lands included in which, the Patent aforesaid had then already been issued—

The notes, as shown by the blank attached, are in common form, containing unconditional promises to pay—

Upon this state of facts, my legal opinion is asked upon the question, following:

"Can the sale of the Swamp Land, by the county, be enforced by the Courts"?

I should state the question, thus:

"Can the makers of the notes successfully defend suits brought upon them?"

Unquestionably they can not, unless they can allege and prove want, or failure of consideration— Neither of these can they do— No deception was practiced upon them— At the time they purchased, and made the notes, they had both constructive and actual notice of everything concerning the title, which really exists— Nothing new has come to light— The certificate received by each purchaser, refers to the resolutions of the Board; and those resolutions show upon what condition, and what alone, the purchaser can be relieved from his note— The condition is "if the title of the County to any such tract, so contested, shall fail, suitable effort to sustain the same having been made by the purchaser, to the satisfaction of the 'Drainage Commissioner' at the time of such contest, the County will repay to such purchaser the money, and cancel or release the note received therefor &c." I understand no such contest has been made in any case; and until this shall be done, no successful defence to a suit upon any of these notes can be made— If, by any means, any tract was sold, by the county, which was not granted to the State by the United States, the title to such tract would fail, but such case would be an exception— With such, or similar exceptions, if there be any such, the title to the lands sold by the County has not failed, and quite certainly, never will fail— Test it, by supposing practical cases. Suppose the purchaser takes *possession—how*, and *by whom* can he be got out? Will the United States undertake to put him out? Will the United States re-assume ownership, and sell, and give a Patent to some individual? Will the State do either of these things? Manifestly not. The idea of such possession ever being so disturbed is absurd. Suppose, then, a stranger squats upon the land, and the purchaser thus loses it, unless he can dispossess the squatter— He brings his Ejectment; shows the Acts of Congress, and the Patent of the United States to the State; the Acts of the Legislature transferring the

title to the county, authorizing a sale by the county, and afterwards confirming the sale actually made by the county, together with the conveyance by the county to himself; and his case is made out— Suppose the squatter shall then offer to say, that by the Acts of Congress, the proceeds of the lands were to be appropriated to the draining of the lands, and that this has not been done. Can a naked wrongdoer be allowed to alledge (sic) this? And if alledged (sic), could it, at law, overturn the United States Patent? Was the Patent good, so long as the proceeds remained unappropriated, and bad after they were misapplied? A Bill in Equity, could not be for a moment maintained against the Patent, by a mere wrongdoer—

My opinion is, that the purchasers from the County, will never lose the land, unless it be by some fault of their own; and that they can not successfully defend suits brought upon the notes—
Springfield, Jany 31, 1859—

A. LINCOLN—

The following order illustrates his inability to resist a plea for help.

My old friend, Henry Chew, the bearer of this, is in a strait for some furniture to commence housekeeping. If any person will furnish him twenty-five dollars' worth, and he does not pay for it by the 1st of January next, I will.

A. LINCOLN.

September 25th, 1858.

The sequel to the above is contained in the following:

Urbana, February 16th, 1859.

HON. A. LINCOLN,
Springfield, Illinois.

My dear Friend: I herewith inclose your order which you gave your friend Henry Chew. You will please send me a draft for the same and oblige yours,

S. LITTLE.

To the Honorable, the Judge of the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, in Chancery sitting—

Humbly complaining, sheweth unto your Honor, your Orators, Charles W. Rockwell, Charles H. Rockwell, John Rockwell, E. I.

Tinkham & Co's Bank, and the Bank of the Republic; that said Banks are duly incorporated, and doing business, under the general banking law of the State of Illinois, and that your orators, the individuals above named, are and for some time past, have been the sole owners of the capital stock of both said Banks— That said Banks have their business transacted by one and the same agent, at the same office, in McLeansboro, Hamilton County, Illinois—

That on the 18th day of February 1859, one Seth Wadhams, came to said office, in the capacity, as your orators are informed, and believe, of an agent of James M. Adsit, and Elisha W. Willard, or of one of them, and presented for redemption in specie, about three hundred dollars, in the circulating notes of said two banks, promiscuously intermingled; all which the agent of said Banks then and there redeemed with coins which were, without objection, received by said Wadhams— That this was in the forenoon, and the Office was closed from noon till 2 o'clock— That in the afternoon of the same day, the said Wadhams, with one Roselle M. Hough, who your orators are informed, and believe was also acting in the capacity of an agent of said Adsit and Willard, or of one of them, and also with one Casey S. Vise, who assumed to be a Notary Public, returned to said office; that said Wadhams, and Hough each had a carpet sack, from which they took the contents and laid the same on the table of said office; that one of them, pointing to the parcel laid upon the table by himself, said to the agent of said Banks "There, Rickcords, is fortytwo thousand dollars; we want the money for it"—that the other claimed to have eighty-five hundred dollars in his parcel, for which in a similar way he demanded the money—that the parcel claimed to contain \$42,000, was said to be the notes of the Bank of the Republic, and that of 8,500, to be the notes of E. I. Tinkham & Co's Bank.

That the \$42,000 parcel was, in separate packages, wrapped in brown paper, and except one of the packages, was not opened in the presence of the agent of said Bank; that the \$8,500. parcel was likewise wrapped in brown paper, and the wrapper of that parcel was, as was the single package of the other parcel, so far opened as to show that the contents had the general appearance of bank-notes; that the agent of said Banks then and there asked

permission to examine said parcels, so as to ascertain whether the contents were really, in whole, or in part, the notes of said Banks, and whether the amounts were or not correctly stated, which the said Wadhams and Hough peremptorily refused to allow— That said agent of said Banks was then presented with one thousand dollars of the notes of said Banks, five hundred dollars being of the notes of each of said Banks, which he was permitted to examine and count, and specie was demanded for that one thousand dollars of said notes; said agent then produced, and emptied upon the table a bag of specie, containing two or three hundred dollars; that the same was part gold coins and part silver coins; that the silver coins were partly of the coinage under the act of Feb. 21, 1853, and partly not, in what proportions your orators can not precisely state; that twenty dollars of said specie was selected by said Wadhams and Hough, or by them and the said Vise, and taken by them, for which the agent of said Banks took and retained two five dollar notes on each of said Banks; that the twenty dollars selected and taken as aforesaid by said Wadhams and Hough, and Vise, was all of the coinage under the Act of Feb. 21 1853. And your orators distinctly charge that the said Wadhams, Hough and Vise did then and there carefully reject all the gold coins, and silver coins, of other coinage than that under the Act of Feb. 21, 1853, a large quantity of which was offered them by the said agent of said Banks, was lying within their reach, and in fact was handled by them. That said Wadhams, Hough and Vise, then voluntarily took up the parcels aforesaid, except the four five dollar notes taken by the agent of said Banks as aforesaid, and left said office, taking with them the twenty dollars of the silver coinage under the Act of Feb. 21, 1853, and said office was closed until ten o'clock the morning of the next day. That on the next day, being February 19th 1859, at ten o'clock A. M. the said Wadhams, Hough, and Vise again presented themselves at said office; that upon that occasion they placed upon the table apparantly (sic) the same parcels as the day before, and removed the wrappers, so that it could be seen that the parcels had the appearance of Bank-notes; but again distinctly refused to allow the agent of said Banks to handle, count, or examine the same, stating that they knew there were sixtyfive thousand dollars of said notes, and that said agent of said Banks should not be al-

lowed to handle, count or examine the same, unless he would first place before them sixtyfive thousand dollars in specie; that the agent of said Banks declined to place the sixtyfive thousand dollars in specie before them, under those circumstances, and so informed them. That said agent then and there distinctly informed said Wadhams, Hough and Vise, that he was ready and willing, to redeem, in "the lawful money of the United States" or in the "legal coin of the United States" the whole, or any portion of the notes of said Banks, so soon, and so fast as he could ascertain and know for himself, that in parting with the coin, he was getting out of circulation, an equal amount of the genuine notes of said Banks— That said Wadhams, Hough, and Vise, or some of them, took from the parcels aforesaid, a quantity of said notes, and handed them to said agent of said Banks, which being examined and counted by him, he found to be two or three hundred dollars of the notes of both of said Banks; that said Vise then formally demanded that said notes so examined, and counted by said agent, should then be redeemed; that said agent of said Banks then and there emptied upon the table before said Wadhams, Hough, and Vise, a bag of gold and silver coins, containing three hundred dollars; that at the same time he placed before them, and opened in their presence a box containing \$2312.70 cents, of gold and silver coins; that the contents of both said bag and box, were partly gold coins, partly of silver coins of the coinage under the Act of Feb. 21, 1853, and partly of different coinage; that said Vise selected, and took twenty dollars of the silver coinage under the Act of Feb. 21, 1853, for which your orators' agent took and retained two five dollar notes of each of said Banks; that said Vise then and there distinctly refused to take from the mass before him, the gold coins, and silver coins, other than that of the coinage of Feb. 21, 1853, and in fact refused the latter also, except the twenty dollars as aforesaid—and also refused to allow your orators agent time to separate the other coins from the silver coinage under the Act of Feb. 21, 1853— That after the selecting and taking of the twenty dollars, by said Vise as aforesaid, he, and the said Wadhams and Hough left the said office—

And your orators charge and insist that, in regard to all or any of the notes of said Banks, which their said agent was not

allowed to examine and count, no "lawful demand" for payment of the same was ever made.

That in regard to all or any of the notes of said Banks which the said agent of your orators was allowed to examine and count, as hereinbefore stated, there was not, in the sense of the law, any failure, neglect or refusal, to redeem the same in the lawful money, or, legal coin of the United States—

And your orators distinctly charge that all the notes of said Banks which their said agent was, on the 19th day of February 1859,—allowed to examine and count amounted to certainly no more than five hundred dollars; and that your orators, by their said agent were then and there ready, willing, and offering to redeem said notes with lawful gold coins of the United States and with the lawful silver coins of the United States, other than of the coinage under the Act of Feb. 21, 1853—

Your orators further charge that up to, and at the time of the making the protests, by said Vise, as hereinafter mentioned, he the said Vise, had never examined, or counted the notes which he so protested; and that, at the interview in the said office of said Banks upon which he, said Vise, based said protests, he admitted that he had never examined, or counted said notes— Your orators further charge that upon the foregoing state of facts, without more, the said Vise, assuming to be a Notary Public, made out four protests, of which the four papers, herewith marked respectively A. B. C. & D. are copies, and which your orators pray may be taken and considered as parts of this Bill.

And your orators charge and insist that the "new silver coin of the issue under the law of 1853," is the lawful money, and legal coin of the United States—

Your orators further state that the said Elisha W. Willard, and James M. Adsit, caused said protests to be presented to the Auditor of Public Accounts, who, on the 24th day of February 1859 forwarded notices to said Banks by mail, that said protests had been filed in his office; and that said Banks were required to pay or cause to be paid, the amounts stated in said protests, at his office, in legal coin of the United States, within ten days from that date together with all costs, interest, protest fees, and expenses thereon due, or to become due, or, upon failure thereof, he should proceed to put said Banks in liquidation as provided by

law, all which fully appear by the two papers signed by said Auditor, marked respectively, E & F. and herewith filed and prayed to be taken as parts hereof—

And your orators believe and charge that said Auditor will put said Banks in liquidation unless he be restrained therefrom by this Honorable court—

Your orators charge that the proceedings to put said Banks in liquidation are contrary to law and Equity, for the reasons hereinbefore stated, and also for the following:

That the pretended demand for the legal coin of the United States, made at the office of said Banks on the 19th day of February 1859, was not made in good faith with the intent to obtain the lawful money, or legal coin of the United States; but was made maliciously, in a manner intended to prevent the payment, and to elicit a colorable refusal to pay, in order to force said Banks into liquidation— That the said Carey S. Vise was not, at the time of making said protests, a Notary Public, duly acting as such, because no bond had, up to that time, been taken of him by the Governor, in pursuance of the 7th Section of the Act in relation to Notaries Public— And your orators expressly charge that the said Willard and Adsit, by their agents Wadhams and Hough, who were solely acting for them in the premises, well knew at the time they procured said Vise to act, and to make said protests, that no such bond had been taken of him— Your orator's further charge that after said protests were filed with said Auditor, and before he had acted upon them, he was notified that no such bond had been taken of said Vise up to the time of making said protests; and the certificate of the Secretary of State, herewith filed, marked G, was shown him, as evidence of the fact—

Your orators further charge that neither at the time of making of said protests, or at any time afterwards, did the said Vise deliver copies of said protests, or a copy of any of them, to the president, cashier, or principal clerk, at the office, or place of business of said Banks; and your orators only procured the copies herewith filed, upon their own application at the Auditor's office, and have never yet been furnished with, or otherwise procured, any description or list of the denominations, numbers, and letters of the notes supposed to be protested—

Your orators charge and insist that the only law or act of the

general Assembly, under which the said Banks can be legally forced into liquidation is the Act of Feb. 15, 1851; and they further charge and insist that the notes of said Banks mentioned in said protests, were not protested "*in the usual manner*" as required by that act.

And your orators charge and insist that by no law binding upon them, are they under obligation to redeem protested notes, or any other notes, at any place, other than at their own place of business, and at which place their said notes are made payable on their face— And your orators aver & charge that they are now, and at all times, ready to redeem, in the lawful money of the United States, or legal coin of the United States, all the notes of said Banks, as well those supposed to be protested, as others— Your orators further charge and insist that by no law binding upon them, is a notice, transmitted by mail only, from the Auditor, valid and obligatory upon them—

Your orators charge and insist that the banking act of Feb. 14, 1857, is not valid and binding upon them, because it was enacted without their consent, after the banks aforesaid were incorporated, and said Banks have not since accepted or ratified it; and because said act was never submitted to a vote of the people as required by the tenth Article of the Constitution of the State of Illinois.

Your orators charge that said Banks have never issued any notes of any denomination larger than of five dollars, and consequently that none of said supposed protested notes can be of a denomination larger than that of five dollars; and they insist that whether the silver coins of the United States, of the coinage under the Act of Feb. 21, 1853, be, in the general sense, a lawful tender or not, in the payment of debts, they are a lawful tender in the payment of any aggregated (sic) amount of the notes of the Banks aforesaid—

And your orators further charge and insist, that whether said coins are or not a legal tender, in the general sense, is a question which does not arise in this case; but that, either way, they are "the lawful money of the United States" and "the legal coin of the United States" and as such, are, if tendered, when notes are presented for redemption, sufficient under the banking law of Illinois to prevent a bank being forced into liquidation—

Your orators charge that although some of said protests are made in the name of said Willard and some in the name of said Adsit, yet in fact, said Willard, Adsit, Wadhams, Hough, and Vise, all acted in concert and combination, with a common purpose to force said Banks into liquidation.

Your orators further state that the said proceedings to force said Banks into liquidation, are iniquitous, and tend manifestly to the great and irreparable injury of your orators, and for which they have no complete, and adequate remedy at law

In consideration of all which your orators pray that the said Auditor of Public Accounts, Jesse K. Dubois, and the said Elisha W. Willard, James M. Adsit, Seth Wadhams, Roselle M. Hough and Carey S. Vise, be made defendants to this Bill; that the Peoples writ of Subpœna issue for them; that they be required to answer all and singular the allegations of said Bill, their oaths, and the oath of each of them, being hereby waived; that until the final hearing of this cause, the said defendant, Dubois, as Auditor, be enjoined and restrained from further proceeding to put said Banks in liquidation; that on a final hearing the said defendants, Willard, Adsit, Wadhams, Hough, and Vise, be decreed to respond in damages to your orators, for the injury done them; and that your Honor will grant such other and further relief as Equity may require, and as in duty bound &c.

LINCOLN & HERNDON, for Complainants.

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
SANGAMON COUNTY } ss.

William Rickcords, the agent of the Banks so frequently mentioned in the foregoing Bill in Chancery, being first duly sworn, states on oath that all the allegations of said Bill, so far as they purport or appear to be of matters within his knowledge, are true; and so far as made on the information of others, he believes them to be true—

WM. RICKCORD.

Subscribed and Sworn to before me
this 26 Feb. A. D. 1859

PUSED WRIGHT, Clerk.

(Filed March 2, 1859)

Application for injunction against State Auditor.

Springfield, Ills. April 30, 1859.

HON: S. P. CHASE

Dear Sir

Reaching home yesterday I found your kind note of the 14th informing me that you have given Mr. Whitney the appointment he desired; and also mentioning the present encouraging aspects of the Republican cause—and our Illinois canvass of last year. I thank you for the appointment— Allow me also to thank you as being one of the very few distinguished men, whose sympathy we in Illinois did receive last year, of all those whose sympathy we thought we had reason to expect—

Of course I would have preferred success; but failing in that, I have no regrets for having rejected all advice to the contrary, and resolutely made the struggle— Had we thrown ourselves into the arms of Douglas, as re-electing him by our votes would have done, the Republican cause would have been annihilated in Illinois, and, as I think, demoralized; and prostrated everywhere for years, if not forever— As it is, in the language of Benton “we are clean” and the Republican star gradually rises higher everywhere—

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

During the fifties a large number of Germans immigrated to the United States. Many of them settled in Illinois, and, wherever possible, established their own newspapers. One such paper was the Illinois *Staats-Anzeiger*, published at Springfield by Theodore Canisius. Canisius, however, had become indebted to one John Burkhardt, and had transferred to him the title to the property of the paper. Lincoln purchased control, and, in the following instrument, came to an agreement with Canisius for the publication of the newspaper. Lincoln realized that the German vote would be a big factor in the election of 1860.

CONTRACT WITH THEODORE CANISIUS

May, 1859

This instrument witnesseth that the Printing-press, German types &c purchased of John Burkhardt, belong to Abraham Lincoln; that Theodore Canissius is to have immediate possession of them, and is

to commence publishing in Springfield, Illinois, a Republican newspaper, to be chiefly in the German language, with occasional translations into English at his option; the first number to issue in the ensuing month of June, and to continue thenceforward issuing weekly or oftener, at the option of said Canissius, he, said Canissius, bearing all expences, and charges, and taking all incomes and profits; said paper, in political sentiment, not to depart from the Philadelphia and Illinois Republican platforms; and for a material departure in that respect, or a failure of said paper to issue as often as weekly, or any attempt to remove said press, types &c, from Springfield, or to print with them any thing opposed to, or designed to injure the Republican party, said Lincoln may, at his option, at once take possession of said press, types &c, and deal with them as his own. On the contrary, if said Canissius shall issue a newspaper, in all things conformable thereto, until after the Presidential election of 1860, then said press, types &c are to be his property absolutely, not, however, to be used against the Republican party; nor to be removed from Springfield without the consent of said Lincoln.

May 1859

A. LINCOLN
TH CANISIUS.

Two copies of this contract were made, one for Lincoln and one for Canissius. In both copies the body of the instrument is the same. However, at the bottom of Lincoln's copy there is the following sentence in pencil:

May 30. 1859. Jacob Bunn, bought the press, types &c. of John Burkhardt, for me, and with my money

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., May 14, 1859.

W. M. DELAHAY, Esq.:

My dear Sir—I find it impossible for me to attend your Republican convention at Ossawatan on the 18th. It would have afforded me much personal gratification to see your fine new country, and to meet the good people who have cast their lot there; and still more, if I could thereby contribute anything to the Republican cause. You will probably adopt resolutions in the nature of a platform; and, as I think, the only danger will be the temptation to lower the Republican standard in order to gather recruits. In my judgment such a step would be a serious mistake—would

open a gap through which more would pass *out* than pass *in*. And this would be in deference to Douglassism, or to the Southern opposition element. Either would surrender the object of the Republican organization—the preventing the *spread* and nationalization of *slavery*. This object surrendered, the organization would go to pieces. I do not mean by this that no Southern man must be placed upon our Republican national ticket for 1860. There are many men in the slave states for any one of whom I would cheerfully vote to be either president or vice-president, provided he would enable me to do so with *safety* to the Republican cause, without lowering the Republican standard. This is the indispensable condition of a union with us. It is idle to think of any other. Any other would be as fruitless to the South as distasteful to the North, the whole ending in common defeat. Let a union be attempted on the basis of ignoring the slave question, and magnifying other questions which the people just now are really caring nothing about, and it will result in gaining no single electoral vote in the *South* and losing every one in the North.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield June 9—1859

JONATHAN HAINES ESQ.

Dear Sir:

I have just come home and found your letter of May 30th. I have done nothing further with the Rugg case. How Dicky keeps that matter hanging along I do not comprehend. I do believe it would be better all round to let me surrender both your cases to some lawyer at Chicago. I really can not give them proper attention.

There is no such thing as the Rugg suit being dead— It lingers along because I never find Dicky at Chicago, and I hate to press the thing without him. As to my entering on a campaign of taking proof in the pending suit I think I must say that is impossible. I have received from you one hundred dollars being fifty at each of two different times—and credited it on one of your notes.

Yours Truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., June 9th, 1859.

S. P. CHASE

Dear Sir

Please pardon the liberty I take in addressing you, as I now do— It appears by the papers that the late Republican State Convention of Ohio adopted a Platform, of which the following is one plank, “A repeal of the atrocious Fugitive Slave Law.”

This is already damaging us here. I have no doubt that if that plank be ever introduced into the next Republican National Convention, it will explode it. Once introduced, its supporters and its opponents will quarrel irreconcilably.

The latter believe the U. S. Constitution declares that a fugitive slave “shall be delivered up” and they look upon the above plank as dictated by the spirit which declares a fugitive slave “shall not be delivered up.”

I enter upon no argument one way or the other; but I assure you the cause of Republicanism is hopeless in Illinois, if it be in any way made responsible for that plank— I hope you can, and will, contribute something to relieve us from it.

Your obdt Servant

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, June 15, 1859.

HENRY A. CLARK, Esq.,

Dear Sir:—

The cases of Cochran & Hall against Camp and others, and against J. L. D. Momson are already continued.

I have never had any definite arrangements with anyone about a fee on these cases; and the consequence is I am bothered with them every court, without understanding anything about them. I blame no one for this; but it would be better all round for me to either get out of these cases or get in deep enough to understand and prepare them.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, June 15, 1859.

PRESS & TRIBUNE CO.

Gentlemen.

Herewith is a little draft to pay for your Daily another year from to-day—I suppose I shall take the Press & Tribune so long as it, and I both live, unless I become unable to pay for it—In it's devotion to our cause always, and to me personally last year, I owe it a debt of gratitude, which I fear I shall never be able to pay.

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., June 20, 1859.

HON. S. P. CHASE,

My dear Sir: Yours of the 13th inst. is received. You say you would be glad to have my views. Although I think Congress has constitutional authority to enact a Fugitive Slave law, I have never elaborated an opinion upon the subject. My view has been, and is, simply this: The U. S. Constitution says the fugitive slave "*shall be delivered up*," but it does not expressly say *who* shall deliver him up. Whatever the Constitution says "*shall be done*" and has omitted saying who shall do it, the government established by that Constitution, *ex vi termini*, is vested with the power of doing; and Congress is, by the Constitution expressly empowered to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution all powers vested by the Constitution in the government of the United States. This would be my view, on a simple reading of the Constitution; and it is greatly strengthened by the historical fact that the Constitution was adopted, in great part in order to get a government which could execute its own behests, in contradiction to that under the Articles of Confederation, which depended in many respects, upon the States, for its execution; and the other fact that one of the earliest Congresses under the Constitution, did enact a Fugitive Slave law.

But I did not write you on this subject, with any view of discussing the Constitutional question. My only object was to impress you with what I believe is true, that the introduction of a proposition for repeal of the Fugitive Slave law, into the next Republican National Convention, will explode the Convention and

the party. Having turned your attention to the point, I wish to do no more.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

LINCOLN'S ADDRESS, AUGUST 13, 1859.

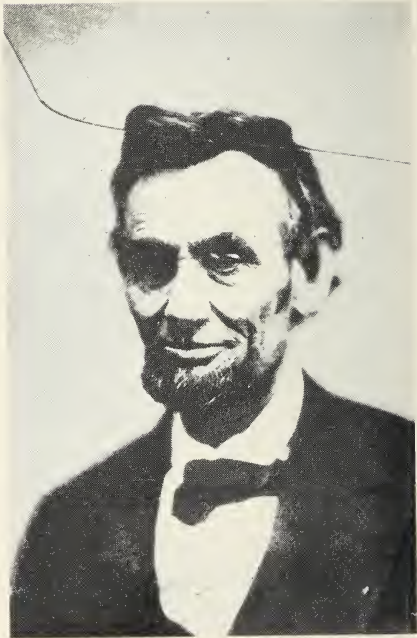
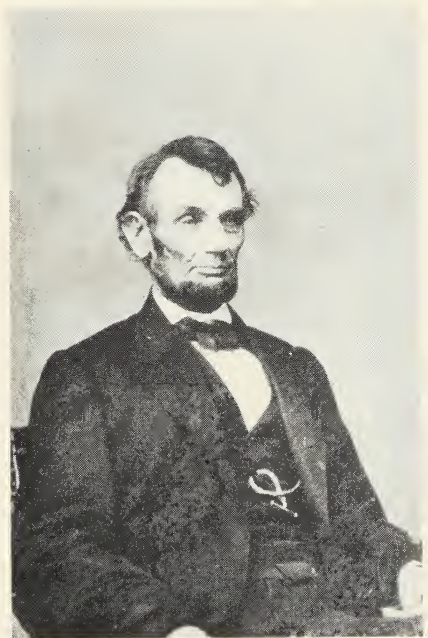
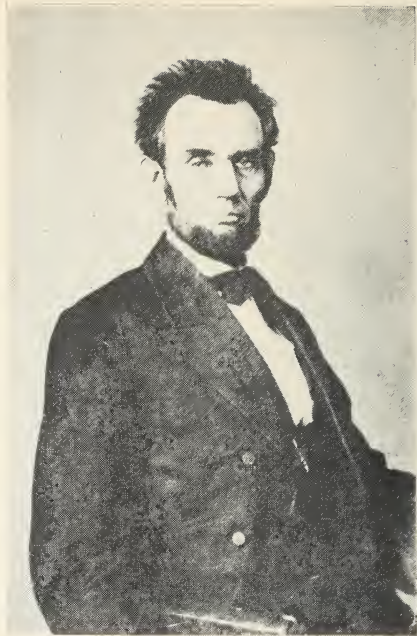
The Council Bluffs *Bugle* had this notice:

The people of this city were edified last Saturday evening [Aug. 13, 1859] by a speech from Honorable Abe Lincoln of Illinois. He apologized very handsomely for appearing before an Iowa audience during a campaign in which he was not interested. He then, with many excuses and a lengthy explanation, as if conscious of the nauseous nature of the black Republican nostrum, announced his intention to speak about the "Eternal Negro," to use his own language, and entered into a lengthy and ingenious analysis of the "nigger" question, impressing upon his hearers that it was the only question to be agitated until finally settled. He carefully avoided going directly to the extreme ground occupied by him in his canvass against Douglas, yet the doctrines which he preached, carried out to their legitimate results, amount to precisely the same thing. He was decidedly opposed to the fusion or coalition of the Republican party with the opposition of the South, and clearly proved the correctness of his ground in point of policy. They must retain their national organization and sectional character, and continue to wage their sectional warfare by slavery agitation; but if the opposition in the South would accede to their views and adopt their doctrines, he was willing to run for President in 1860, as Southern man with northern principles, or in other words with abolition proclivities. His speech was of the character of an exhortation to the Republican party, but was in reality as good a speech as could have been made for the interest of the Democracy. He was listened to with much attention, for his Waterloo defeat by Douglas has magnified him into quite a lion here.

Springfield Ill., Sept. 6, 1859.

HAWKINS TAYLOR, ESQ.

My Dear Sir: Yours of the 3d is just received. There is some mistake about my expected attendance of the U. S. Court in



(From the Collection of Frederick Hill Meserve)

your city on the 3d Tuesday of this month. I have had no thought of being there. It is bad to be poor. I shall go to the wall for bread and meat, if I neglect my business this year as well as last. It would please me much to see the City, and good people, of Keokuk, but for this year it is little less than an impossibility. I am constantly receiving invitations which I am compelled to decline. I was pressingly urged to go to Minnesota; and I now have two invitations to go to Ohio. These last are prompted by Douglas going there; and I am really tempted to make a flying trip to Columbus and Cincinnati.

I do hope you will have no serious trouble in Iowa. What thinks Grimes about it? I have not known him to be mistaken about an election in Iowa. Present my respects to Col. Carter, and any other friends; and believe me

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Speech made by Lincoln at Cincinnati, September 17, 1859, against Douglas. In the works of Lincoln, edited by Nicolay and Hay, the whole of that speech is quoted except the following portion, in the place of which a note explains: "(The speaker proceeded to argue that the hired laborer, with his ability to become an employer, must have every precedence over him who labors under the inducement of force. . . .)" Evidently these two pages were separated from Lincoln's manuscript before the editors compiled his works. Nicolay and Hay do, however, publish this fragment in the works, but place it in another period, under the heading: "Fragment. On Slavery. (July 1, 1854?)." Lincoln made very few speeches until October, 1854, and those were devoted largely to the repeal of the Missouri compromise. But in 1859 almost every speech he delivered treated, at length, of slavery and equality.

". . . We know Southern men declare that their slaves are better off than hired laborers amongst us. Twenty-five years ago I was a hired laborer. The hired laborer of yesterday labors on his own account to-day, and will hire others to labor for him to-morrow. Advancement—improvement in condition—is the order of things in a society of equals. As labor is the common burden of our race, so the effort of some to shift their share of the burden

onto the shoulders of others is the great durable curse of the race. Originally a curse for transgression upon the whole race, when, as by slavery, it is concentrated on a part only, it becomes the double-refined curse of God upon his creatures. Free labor has the inspiration of hope; pure slavery has no hope. The power of hope upon human exertion and happiness is wonderful. The slave-master himself has a conception of it, and hence the system of tasks among slaves. . . .”

Springfield, Ill. Sept. 21, 1859.

HON. S. P. CHASE:—

My dear Sir—This is my first opportunity to express to you my great regret at not meeting you personally while in Ohio. However, you were at work in the cause, and that, after all, was better. It is useless for me to say to you (and yet I cannot refrain from saying it) that you must not let your approaching election in Ohio so result as to give encouragement to Douglassism. That ism is all which now stands in the way of an early and complete success of Republicanism; and nothing would help it or hurt us so much as for Ohio to go over or falter just now. You must, one and all, put your souls into the effort.

Your obedient servant

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Oct. 17, 1859.

HON. W. M. DICKSON,

My Dear Sir: Well the election in Ohio is over; and there is nothing to regret but the loss of Cincinnati and Hamilton County. Peculiarly, I suppose it is better for you to be remitted to the bar. The general result in the state and in the other states is, indeed, glorious. Now, let our friends bear and forbear, and not quarrel over the spoils.

We were very glad to learn by your letter that your children were through the danger of scarlet fever. Tell Cousin Annie that her Cousin Ann, here, now has it among her children. Otherwise the relations here are well. Give our love to Uncle Dr. Parker, and particularly to our Republican aunt.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

McCormack House, Danville Illinois Nov. 13, 1859

JAMES A. BRIGGS, Esq.

New York.

Dear Sir

Yours of the 1st, closing with my proposition for compromise, was duly received. I shall be on hand, and on due time will notify you of the exact day. I believe, after all, I will make a political speech of it. You have no objection?

I would like to know in advance whether I am also to speak or lecture in New York.

Very, very glad your election went right.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

P.S. I am here at court, but my address is still at Springfield, Illinois.

A. L.

The *Free Press*, Elwood, Kansas, of December 3, 1859, contains the following account:

“Hon. Abraham Lincoln arrived in Elwood Thursday, December 1. Although fatigued with the journey, and somewhat ‘under the weather, he kindly consented to make a short speech here. A large number of our citizens assembled at the Great Western hotel to hear him.

“Mr. Lincoln was received with great enthusiasm. He stated the reasons why he was unable to make a speech this evening. He could only say a few words to us who had come out to meet him the first time he had placed his foot upon the soil of Kansas. Mr. Lincoln said that it was possible that we had local questions in regard to railroads, land grants and internal improvements which were matters of deeper interest to us than the questions arising out of national politics, but of these local interests he knew nothing and should say nothing. We had, however, just adopted a state constitution, and it was probable that, under that constitution, we should soon cease our territorial existence, and come forward to take our place in the brotherhood of states, and act our part as a member of the confederation.”

KANSAS SHOULD BE FREE

"Kansas should be free, but the same questions we had had here in regard to freedom or slavery would arise in regard to other territories, and we should have to take our part in deciding them. People often ask, 'Why make such a fuss about a few niggers?' I answer the question by asking, What will you do to dispose of this question? The slaves constitute one-seventh of our entire population. Wherever there is an element of this magnitude in a government it will be talked about. The general feeling in regard to slavery has changed entirely since the early days of the republic. You may examine the debates under the confederation in the convention that framed the constitution and in the first session of congress and you will not find a single man saying that slavery is a good thing. They all believe it was an evil. They made the Northwest Territory, the only territory then belonging to the government, forever free. They prohibited the African slave trade.

"Having thus prevented its extension and cut off the supply, the fathers of the republic believed slavery must soon disappear. There are only three clauses in the constitution which refer to slavery and in neither of them is the word 'slave' or slavery mentioned. The word is not used in the clause prohibiting the African slave trade; it is not used in the clause which makes slaves a basis of representation, it is not used in the clause requiring the return of fugitive slaves; and yet, in all the debates in the convention the question was discussed and slaves and slavery talked about. Now, why was this word kept out of that instrument, and so carefully kept out that a European, be he ever so intelligent, if not familiar with our institutions, might read the Constitution over and over again and never learn that slavery existed in the United States.

"The reason is this: The framers of the organic law believed that the Constitution would outlast slavery, and they did not want a word there to tell future generations that slavery had ever been legalized in America."

TRIBUTE TO KANSAS

"Your territory has been a marked history—no other territory has ever had such a history. There had been strife and bloodshed

here; both parties had been guilty of outrages; he had his opinion as to the relative guilt of the parties, but he would not say who had been most to blame. One fact was certain—there had been loss of life, destruction of property; our material interests had been retarded. Was this desirable? There is a peaceful way of settling these questions—the way adopted by government until a recent period. The bloody code has grown out of the new policy in regard to the government of territories.

“The attack of Brown is wrong for two reasons: It is a violation of law and it is, as all such attacks must be, futile as to any effect, it may have on the extinction of a great evil; we have a means provided for the expression of our belief in regard to slavery—it is through the ballot box, the peaceful method provided by the constitutions.”

DEAR MARY:

With pleasure I write my name in your album. Ere long some younger man will be more happy to confer his name upon you.

Don't allow it, Mary, until fully assured that he is worthy of the happiness. Dec. 7, 1859.

Your friend,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. Dec. 9, 1859

L. L. JONES, Esq

My dear Sir:

Your kind invitation to me to visit Lawrence, was handed me at Leavenworth on Saturday the 3rd Inst. I was advertised to speak there that evening and also on Monday the 5th; so that it was not possible for me to be at Lawrence before, or at, the election—I supposed there was not sufficient object for me to go *after* the election, through the excessive cold—

Please present my respects, and make my acknowledgments, to the other gentlemen who joined you in the invitation, and accept the same for yourself—

Very truly Yours

A. LINCOLN.

SYNOPSIS OF THE SPEECH OF THE HON. ABRAHAM LINCOLN

After being introduced by Col. M. W. Delahay, Mr. Lincoln said, substantially as follows:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: You are, as yet, the people of a Territory; but you probably soon will be the people of a State of the Union. Then you will be in possession of new privileges, and new duties will be upon you. You will have to bear a part in all that pertains to the administration of the National Government. That government, from the beginning, has had, has now, and must continue to have a policy in relation to domestic slavery. It cannot, if it would, be without a policy upon that subject. And that policy must, of necessity, take one of two directions. It must deal with the institutions as being *wrong* or as *not* being wrong.

Mr. Lincoln then stated, somewhat in detail, the early action of the General Government upon the question—in relation to the foreign slave trade, the basis of Federal representation, and the prohibition of slavery in the Federal territories; the Fugitive Slave clause in the Constitution, and insisted that plainly that early policy, was based on the idea of slavery being wrong; and tolerating it so far, and only so far, as the necessity of its actual presence required.

He then took up the policy of the Kansas-Nebraska act, which he argued was based on opposite ideas—that is, the idea that slavery is *not* wrong. He said: You, the people of Kansas, furnish the example of the first application of this new policy. At the end of about five years, after having almost continual struggles, fire and bloodshed, over this very question, and after having framed several State Constitutions, you have, at last, secured a Free State Constitution, under which you will probably be admitted into the Union. You have, at last, at the end of all this difficulty, attained what we, in the old North western Territory, attained without any difficulty at all. Compare, or rather contrast, the actual working of this new policy with that of the old, and say whether, after all, the old way—the way adopted by Washington and his compeers—was not the better way.

Mr. Lincoln argued that the new policy had proven false to all its promises—that its promise to the Nation was to speedily end the slavery agitation, which it had not done, but directly the contrary—that its promises to the people of the Territories was to give them greater control of their own affairs than the people of former Territories had had; while, by the actual experiment, they had had less control of their own affairs, and had been more be-

deviled by outside interference than the people of any other Territory ever had.

He insisted that it was deceitful in its expressed wish to confer additional privileges upon the people; else it would have conferred upon them the privilege of choosing their own officers. That if there be any just reason why all the privileges of a State should not be conferred on the people of a Territory at once, it only could be their smallness of numbers; and that if while their numbers was small, they were fit to do some things, and unfit to do others, it could only be because those they were unfit to do, were the larger and more important things—that, in this case, the allowing the people of Kansas to plant their soil with slavery, and not allowing them to choose their own Governor, could only be justified on the idea that the planting a new State with slavery was a very small matter, and the election of Governor a very much greater matter. Now, said he, compare these two matters and decide which is really the greater. You have already had, I think, five Governors, and yet, although their doings, in their respective days, were of some little interest to you, it is doubtful whether you now, even remember the names of half of them. They are gone (all but the last) without leaving a trace upon your soil, or having done a single act which can, in the least degree, help or hurt you, in all the indefinite future before you. This is the size of the Governor question. Now, how is it with the slavery question? If your first settlers had so far decided in favor of slavery, as to have got five thousand slaves planted on your soil, you could, by no moral possibility, have adopted a Free State Constitution. Their owners would be influential voters among you as good men as the rest of you, and, by their greater wealth, and consequent, greater capacity to assist the more needy, perhaps the most influential among you. You would not wish to destroy, or injuriously interfere with their property. You would not know what to do with the slaves after you had made them free. You would not wish to keep them as underlings; nor yet to elevate them to social and political equality. You could not send them away. The slave States would not let you send them there; and the free States would not let you *send* them *there*. All the rest of your property would not pay for sending them to Liberia. In one word, you could not have made a free State, if the first half of your own numbers

had got five thousand slaves fixed upon the soil. You could have disposed of, not merely five, but five hundred Governors easier. There they would have stuck, in spite of you, to plague you and your children, and your children's children, indefinitely. Which is the greater, this, or the Governor question? Which could the more safely be intrusted to the first few people who settle a Territory? Is it that which, at most, can be but temporary and brief in its effects? or that which being done by the first few, can scarcely ever be undone by the succeeding many?

He insisted that, little as was Popular Sovereignty at first, the Dred Scott decision, which is indorsed by the author of Popular Sovereignty, has reduced it to still smaller proportions, if it has not entirely crushed it out. That, in fact, all it lacks of being crushed out entirely by that decision, is the lawyer's technical distinction between *decision* and *dictum*. That the Court has already *said* a Territorial government cannot exclude slavery; but because they did not say it in a case where a Territorial government had tried to exclude slavery, the lawyers hold that saying of the Court to be *dictum* and not *decision*. But, said Mr. Lincoln, is it not certain that the Court will make *decision* of it, the first time a Territorial government tries to exclude slavery?

Mr. Lincoln argued that the doctrine of Popular Sovereignty, carried out, renews the African Slave Trade. Said he, "Who can show that one people have a better right to carry slaves to where they have never been, than another people have to buy slaves wherever they please, even in Africa?"

He also argued that the advocates of Popular Sovereignty, by their efforts to brutalize the negro in the public mind—denying him any share in the Declaration of Independence, and comparing him to the crocodile—were beyond what avowed pro-slavery men ever do, and really did as much, or more than they, toward making the institution national and perpetual.

He said many of the Popular Sovereignty advocates were "as much opposed to slavery as any one;" but that they could never find any proper time or place to oppose it. In their view, it must not be opposed in politics, because that is agitation; nor in the pulpit, because it is not religion; nor in the Free States, because it is not there; nor in the Slave States, because it is there. These gentlemen, however, are never offended by hearing Slavery sup-

ported in any of these places. Still, they are "as much opposed to Slavery as anybody." One would suppose that it would exactly suit them if the people of the Slave States would themselves adopt emancipation; but when Frank Blair tried this last year, in Missouri, and was beaten, every one of them threw up his hat and shouted "Hurrah for the Democracy!"

Mr. Lincoln argued that those who thought Slavery right ought to unite on a policy which should deal with it as being right; that they should go for a revival of the Slave Trade; for carrying the institution everywhere, into Free States as well as Territories; and for a surrender of fugitive slaves in Canada, or war with Great Britain. Said he, all shades of Democracy, popular sovereign as well as the rest, are fully agreed that slaves are property, and only property. If Canada now had as many horses as she has slaves belonging to Americans, I should think it just cause of war if she did not surrender them on demand.

On the other hand, all those who believe slavery is wrong should unite on a policy, dealing with it as a wrong. They should be de-luded into no deceitful contrivances, pretending indifference, but really working for that to which they are opposed. He urged this at considerable length.

He then took up some of the objections to Republicans. They were accused of being sectional. He denied it. What was the proof? Why, that they have no existence, get no votes in the South. But that depends on the South, and not on us. It is their volition, not ours; and if there be fault in it, it is primarily theirs, and remains so, unless they show that we repel them by some wrong principle. If they attempt this, they will find us holding no principle, other than those held and acted upon by the men who gave us the government under which we live. They will find that the charge of sectionalism will not stop at us, but will extend to the very men who gave us the liberty we enjoy. But if the mere fact that we get no votes in the slave states makes us sectional, whenever we shall get votes in those states, we shall cease to be sectional; and we are sure to get votes, and a good many of them too, in these states next year.

You claim that you are conservative; and we are not. We deny it. What is conservatism? Preserving the old against the new.—And yet you are conservative in struggling for the new, and we

are destructive in trying to maintain the old. Possibly you mean you are conservative in trying to maintain the existing institution of slavery. Very well; we are not trying to destroy it. The peace of society, and the structure of our government both require that we should let it alone, and we insist on letting it alone. If I might advise my Republican friends here, I would say to them, leave your Missouri neighbors alone. Have nothing whatever to do with their slaves. Have nothing whatever to do with the white people, save in a friendly way. Drop past differences, and so conduct yourselves that if you cannot be at peace with them, the fault shall be wholly theirs.

You say we have made the question more prominent than heretofore. We deny it. It is more prominent; but we did not make it so.—Despite of us, you would have a change of policy; we resist the change, and in the struggle, the greater prominence is given to the question. Who is responsible for that, you or we? If you would have the question reduced to its old proportions go back to the old policy. That will effect it.

But you are for the Union; and you greatly fear the success of the Republicans would destroy the Union. Why? Do the Republicans declare against the Union? Nothing like it. Your own statement of it is that if the Black Republicans elect a President, you won't stand it. You will break up the Union. That will be your act, not ours. To justify it, you must show that our policy gives you just cause for such desperate action. Can you do that? When you attempt it, you will find that our policy is exactly the policy of the men who made the Union. Nothing more and nothing less. Do you really think you are justified to break up the government rather than have it administered by Washington, and other good and great men who made it, and first administered it? If you do you are very unreasonable; and more reasonable men cannot and will not submit to you. While you elect President, we submit, neither breaking nor attempting to break up the Union. If we shall constitutionally elect a President, it will be our duty to see that you submit. Old John Brown has just been executed for treason against a state. We cannot object, even though he agreed with us in thinking slavery wrong. That cannot excuse violence, bloodshed, and treason. It could avail him nothing that he might think himself right. So, if constitutionally we elect a President,

and therefore you undertake to destroy the Union, it will be our duty to deal with you as old John Brown has been dealt with. We shall try to do our duty. We hope and believe that in no section will a majority so act as to render such extreme measures necessary.

Mr. Lincoln closed by an appeal to all—opponents as well as friends—to think soberly and maturely, and never fail to cast their vote, insisting that it was not a privilege only, but a duty to do so.

“To Linnie:

A sweet plaintive song did I hear,
And I found that she was the singer—
May emotions as pure as that song set astir,
Be the wont that the future may bring her.

A. Lincoln.”

Yours of the 10th received. First of all, he has a wife and a baby; together they ought to be worth \$500,000 to any man. Secondly, he has an office in which there is a table worth \$1.50 and three chairs worth, say, \$1. Last of all, there is in one corner a large rat-hole, which will bear looking into.

Respectfully,

A. LINCOLN.

Lincoln's opinion of the “Two Mill Tax.”

JESSE K. DUBOIS: Under the circumstances it remains with the general assembly to determine, in their wisdom, whether any means can and shall be devised to relieve the people from the payment of the two mill tax, while at least, as now, the collection of that tax is but a useless bother upon them.

A. LINCOLN.

“I perhaps ought to say that individually I never was much interested in the Texas question. I never could see much good to come of annexation, inasmuch as they were already a free republican people on our own model. On the other hand, I never could very clearly see how the annexation would augment the evil

of slavery. It always seemed to me that slaves would be taken there in about equal numbers, with or without annexation. And if more slaves *were* taken because of annexation, still there would be just so many the fewer left where they were taken from. It is possibly true, to some extent, that with annexation some slaves may be sent to Texas and continued in slavery that otherwise might have been liberated. To whatever extent this may be true, I think annexation is an evil. I hold it to be the paramount duty of us in the free States, due to the Union of the States, and perhaps to liberty itself (paradox though it may seem) to let the slavery of the other States alone; while, on the other hand, I hold it to be equally clear that we should never knowingly lend ourselves, directly or indirectly, to prevent that slavery from dying a natural death—to find new places for it to live in, when it can no longer exist in the old.”

R. M. EWING, Esq.,
Petersburg, Ill.

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 8th enclosing the forged article “From the New York Tribune” published in the Menard Index, was received yesterday. Although the getting up of the thing was intended to deceive, and was very malicious and wicked, I do not think much could be made by exposing it. When you shall have exposed it, they will then say they merely meant it as a “take off” and never intended it to be understood as genuine. If you have a local paper there to simply denounce it as a forgery that would be well enough, but I doubt whether anything else can be done with it to advantage.

I am truly glad you are determined to fight on. In the next struggle I hope we shall be able to pull together. Let us all try to make it so.

Yours Respectfully,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., Jan. 28, 1860.

We, the undersigned, report that we have examined Mr. Henry S. Greene and find him well qualified to practice as an attorney

and counselor at law. We therefore recommend that he be licensed as such.

A. LINCOLN,
L. W. ROSS,
O. H. BROWNING.

S. H. MELVIN.

Bot. of A. Lincoln.

6 Chairs	200	1200
1 Spring Mattress		2600
1 Wardrobe		2000
1 Whatnot		1000
1 Stand		150
9½ yds Stair Carpet	50	475
4 Comforters	200	800

\$82.25

Recd. payment

Springfield, Feby 9th 1860.

A. LINCOLN.

(Bill of Sale of household goods by Lincoln before leaving for his inauguration in Washington.)

Springfield, Feb. 17, 1860

D. L. PHILIPS, Esq

My dear Sir:

Yours of the 13th was received a day or two since, and I have been so busy that I could not attend to it till now— There are four judgments, all against Bennett & Scott— The plaintiffs are—

White & Wright—date Jan. 20, 1858—	\$179.97—	Con	23.65
Cawfield & Moffett “ “ “ “ “	94.98—	“	23.65
Fisher & Bennett “ “ “ “ “	114.25—	“	23.65
Marcus Fechhemmer “ “ “ “ “	364.44	“	23.65

I have not yet mentioned the matter of the “paper” to Dubois, but will so soon as I see him—

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Exeter, N. H. March 4, 1860

MRS. LINCOLN

I have been unable to escape this toil. If I had foreseen it, I think I would not have come East at all. The speech at New York, being within my calculation before I started, went off passably well and gave me no trouble whatever. The difficulty was to make nine others, before reading audiences who had already seen all my ideas in print.

A. LINCOLN.

Chicago, March 28—1860

HON: W. H. LAMON.

My dear Sir:

Yours about motion to quash an indictment, was received yesterday. I think I had no authority but the Statute when I wrote the Indictment— In fact, I remember but little about it— I think yet there is no necessity for setting out the letter in *haec verba*. Our Statute, as I think, relaxes the high degree of technical certainty formerly required—

I am so busy with our case on trial here, that I can not examine authorities near as fully as you can there— If, after all, the indictment shall be quashed, it will only prove that my *forte* is as a Statesman, rather than as a Prosecutor—

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. April 6, 1860

RICHD. V. B. LINCOLN, Esq

My dear Sir

Owing to absence from home, yours of March 19th was not received till yesterday— You are a little mistaken— My grandfather did not go from Berks Co. Pa; but, as I learn, his ancestors did, some time before his birth— He was born in Rockingham Co Va; went from there to Kentucky, and there was killed by Indians about 1784— That the family originally came from Berks, I learned a dozen years ago, by letter, from one of them, then residing at Sparta, Rockingham Co. Va. His name was David Lincoln— I remember, long ago, seeing Austin Lincoln, & Davis Lincoln, said to be sons of Hananiel,

or Annanial Lincoln, who was said to have been a cousin of my grand-father—I have no doubt you and I are distantly related—I should think from what you say, that you and my father were second cousins—

I shall be glad to hear from you at any time—

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills, April 6, 1860

WM. GOODING, Esq

My dear Sir:

Reaching home yesterday, I found your very kind and complimentary letter of March 21st; and for which, I sincerely thank you— Our down East friends did, indeed, treat me with great kindness, demonstrating what I before believed, that all good, intelligent people are very much alike—

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. April 7, 1860.

F. C. HESBURGER

Dear Sir:

Yours of March 14th addressed to me at Chicago and seeking to arrange with me to lecture for the Harrison Literary Institute has been received. I regret to say I cannot make such arrangement— I am not a professional lecturer, have never got up but one lecture; and that, I think, rather poor one. Besides what time I can spare from my own business this season, I shall be compelled to give to politics.

Respectfully yours,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, April 14, 1860.

JAMES F. BABCOCK, Esq.

My Dear Sir:

Reaching home, after a short absence, I find your obliging letter of the 8th. I was very anxious for the result in Connecticut and am much gratified that it is all safe.

As to the Presidential nomination, claiming no greater exemption from selfishness than is common, I still feel that my whole

aspiration should be, and therefore must be, to be placed anywhere, or nowhere, as may appear most likely to advance our cause.

As to the names of confidential friends here, with whom you might correspond, I give you—David Davis, Bloomington, Ill., Julius White, Chicago, Ill., Dr. J. A. W. Buck, Aurora, Ill., A. Sympson, Carthage, Ill.

I will add that Hon. J. W. Grimes & Hon. S. R. Curtis, Senator & Representative from Iowa, are very friendly to me, though I do not know that they favor my nomination. The following named gentlemen are probably for me,—and would like to correspond with you. Hon. Saml. Galloway, Columbus, O., Hon. Robt. C. Schenck, Dayton, Ohio., J. W. Gordon, Indianapolis, Ind., W. T. Page, Esq., Evansville, Ia., Hawkins Taylor, Esq., Keokuk, Iowa.

Please do not understand that I wish to test you with the opening of a correspondence with all these gentlemen. I mean no more than to furnish you with the names and leave the rest to your own pleasure.

Please make my respects to your family and believe me

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill. May 1, 1860

HON. C. M. ALLEN

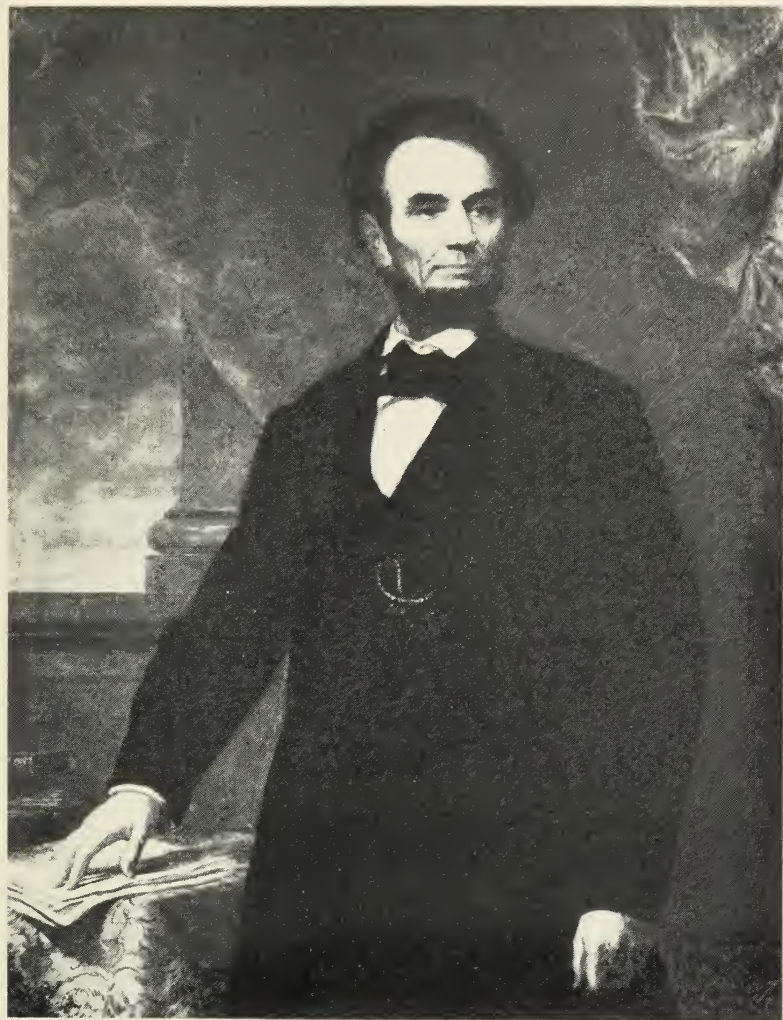
My dear Sir: Your very kind letter of the 27th was received yesterday. This writing being early in the morning, Douglas is not yet nominated; but we suppose he certainly will be before sunset today, a few of the smaller Southern States have seceded from the Convention—just enough to permit his nomination, and not enough to hurt him much at election. This puts the case in the hardest shape for us. But fight we must; and conquer we shall, in the end.

Our friend Dubois, and Judge David Davis, of Bloomington, or both, will meet you at Clinton on the 12th.

If you let Usher and Griswold of Terre-Haute know, I think they will cooperate with you.

Yours very truly,

A. L.



Portrait by Daniel Huntington. Painted for Dossabhoy Framjee
Cama of Bombay, India
(In the Possession of the Prince Albert Museum, Bombay, India)

Springfield Ill. May 17, 1860

I authorize no bargains and will be bound by none.

A. LINCOLN.

Lincoln sent a copy of the *Missouri Democrat* to Wm. H. Herndon, on the margin of which he wrote:

Make no contracts that will bind me.

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. May 23 1860

HON. GEORGE ASHMUN:

Sir:

Your letter I have just received. The principles as represented has my approval. It is my purpose upon my nomination to issue a Statement.

I will be happy to co-operate for the practical success of the principles as put forth by the Convention.

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, May 25, 1860.

DEAR SWETT:

I see no objection to the letter you have written Shaffer. Send it to him but do not let him know I have seen it; and by a post-script tell him to come down and see me.

Yours as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., May 26, 1860.

HON. C. B. SMITH—

My Dear Sir: Yours of the 21st, was duly received; but I have found no time until now, to say a word in the way of answer. I am, indeed, much indebted to Indiana; and, as my home friends tell me, much to you personally. Your saying you no longer consider Ia. a doubtful state is very gratifying. The thing starts well everywhere—too well, I almost fear, to last. But we are in, and stick or go through, must be the word.

Let me hear from Indiana occasionally.

Your friend, as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Private.

Springfield, Ills. May 26, 1860

HON. SCHUYLER COLFAX

My dear Sir:

Your very kind, and acceptable letter of the 18th was received two or three days since—

You distinguish between yourself and my *original* friends—a distinction which, by your leave, I propose to forget—

I have acted upon your suggestion, and also upon my own impulse, in relation to our old friend R. W. T.

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

C. F. MITCHELL, Esq.

Springfield, Ill., May 26, 1860.

Dear Sir—Yours of the 23 with your business card, and newspaper extracts, is received, and for which I have only time to say I thank you. Yours etc.,

A LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills, May 26, 1860

HON. C. M. CLAY.

My dear Sir:

Yours of the 21st is received, and for which I sincerely thank you. The humblest of all whose names were before the Convention, I shall, in the canvass, and especially afterwards, if the result shall devolve the administration upon me, need the support of all the latent popularity, and courage, North and South, which is in the party; and it is with sincere gratification that I receive this early indication of your unwavering purpose to stand for the right.

Your Obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills, May 31, 1860

HON. SCHUYLER COLFAX

My dear Sir:

Yours of the 26th is received; and so far from regarding it as presumptuous, I should be right glad to have one from you every

mail. Bear this in mind, and act accordingly. You will readily understand and appreciate why I write only very short letters.

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. June 1. 1860

F. A. WOOD, Esq.

Dear Sir:

Yours of May 24th is received. You say you are not a Lincoln man; "but still would like to have Mr. L's autograph." Well, here it is.

Yours with respect

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., June 4, 1860.

HON. GEORGE ASHMUN:—

My Dear Sir: It seems as if the question whether my first name is "Abraham" or "Abram" will never be settled. It is "Abraham" and if the letter of acceptance is not yet in print, you may, if you think fit, have my signature thereto printed "Abraham Lincoln." Exercise your own judgment about this.

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., June 4, 1860.

CHAS. E. TROUTMAN, Esq.

Dear Sir:—The Washington Agricultural Literary Society of the Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania will please accept my thanks for the honor done me in electing me an honorary member of the same.

Very respectfully,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill. June 4, 1860.

JOHN EDDY, Esq.

My dear Sir,

Your very gratifying letter of the 29th ult., and although you considerably say I need not answer it, I will at least acknowledge its receipt.

Present my respects to Mr. James, to all friends, and to "Little Rhoda" generally.

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill, June 7, 1860.

HON. W. M. DICKSON,

My Dear Sir: Your telegraphic dispatch, the day of the nomination, was received; and also was, in due course, your kind letter of May 21st with Cousin Annie's note at the end of it.

I have just now received a letter from Cincinnati, of which the following is a copy:

Cincinnati, June 5, 1860.

HON. A. LINCOLN,

Dr. Sir:

We are extremely sorry to be under the necessity of calling your attention to the inclosed bill during your sojourn at the "Burnet" in Sept. last; but it appears there is no remedy left us other than to advise you of its never having been paid. We relied upon the Republican committee but as yet have not been able to find anyone being willing to take the responsibility of paying same . . . consequently advise you in the premises.

Very respy yours,

JOHNSON, SAUNDERS & Co.

(The enclosed bill was for \$53.50.)

Now this may be right, but I have a slight suspicion of it, for two or three reasons. First, when I left, I called at the office of the hotel, and was then distinctly told the bill "was settled," "was all right," or words to that effect. Secondly, it seems a little steep that "board and parlor" from Saturday 7½ p. m. to Monday 10½ a. m., for a man, woman and one small child, should be \$37.50. Thirdly, we had no extra suppers, unless having tea at our room the first evening, was such. We were in the house over the time of five meals, three only of which we took in the house. We did not once dine in the house. As to wines, liquors and cigars, we had none. Absolutely none . . . these last may have been in room 15, by order of committee, but I do not recollect them at all.

Please look into this, and write me. I can and will pay if it is right. Please do what you can quietly, having no fuss about it.

Yours Very Truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill. June 9, 1860.

CHARLES LANMAN,

Yours of the 4th is duly received; and I shall gratefully accept the book when it arrives, as it has not yet done. I already have a copy, which I purchased near a year ago, and which I have found both interesting and valuable.

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, June 9, 1860

MRS. DEZIAH VANCE

Madam

Your letter of June 5th is received— I have no money collected by me for Mr. Vance, and I had ceased trying to collect any for him long before his death— You speak of my letters to Mr. Vance; and if I remember, they will show that the charge of Mr. Vance's claim here was transferred to Mr. W. H. Herndon— I think his claim was against a man, or men, by the name of Vanmeter— I never keep any body's money, which I collect, an hour longer than I can find a chance to turn it over to him— If you doubt this, get some of the busy bodies who are imposing on you in this matter, to find somebody who will swear he paid me money for Mr. Vance— If there is any such man he can be found—

If, as you say, Mr. Trimble spoke to me, and I gave him no satisfaction, it was because the truth was not satisfactory— Let Mr. Trimble or any one also come here and see the man or men, of whom they or you, think I received money for Mr. Vance, and learn of them how the truth is— I have no papers in my hands, belonging to Mr. Vance— I do not certainly know, but my opinion is that nothing can be got on those old claims, or that old claim of Mr. Vance—

Yours, &c.

A. LINCOLN.

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Springfield, Ill., June 11, 1860.

J. MASON HAIGHT, Esq.,

My dear Sir:

I think it would be improper for me to write or say anything to, or for, the public, upon the subject of which you inquire. I therefore wish the letter I do write to be held as strictly confidential. Having kept house sixteen years, and having never held the "cup" to the lips of my friends then, my judgment was that I should not, in my new position, change my habit in this respect. What actually occurred upon the occasion of the committee visiting me, I think it would be better for others to say.

Yours respectfully,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. June 15, 1860

HON. J. E. BRADY

My dear Sir:

Your very kind letter of the 7th was duly received; and, until receiving it, I do not remember to have known of your being located at Pittsburgh— Your kind remembrance of me gratifies me, as well as the flattering prospect which you give of the old "Key Stone—"

I shall be much pleased to hear from you again—

Very truly your friend,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills., June 18, 1860

CARL SCHURZ, Esq

My dear Sir:

Yours of May 22nd was duly received; and now, on a careful re-perusal of it, I am much mortified that I did not attend to it at once. I fear I have no sufficient apology. I received it with multitudes of others, glanced over it too hastily to properly appreciate its importance, laid it by, and it passed from my mind, till Governor Koerner mentioned it today. In a general bringing up of my correspondence, I perhaps should have reached it today.

The main object of the letter—time—so far as it depended on *me*, is lost. I hope you have gone forward on your plan without my advice. To me it appears an excellent plan; and I have no sufficient experience to suggest any improvement on it. I think it would be desirable to have the opinion of the National Committee upon it, if it can be obtained without too much loss of time.

And now, upon this bad beginning, you must not determine to write me no more; for I promise you that no letter of yours to me shall ever again be neglected.

I beg you to be assured that your having supported Governor Seward, in preference to myself, in the Convention, is not even remembered by me for any practical purpose, or the slightest unpleasant feeling. I go not back of the Convention to make distinctions among its members; and, to the extent of our limited acquaintance, no man stands nearer my heart than yourself.

Very truly your friend

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. July 2, 1860

WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

The Bearer of this, Mr. D. L. Phillips, is one of our most active and efficient republicans in Illinois— He is doing good service in our cause: and will ask nothing not needed, and misapply nothing received by him.

Yours &c

A. LINCOLN.

Private

Springfield, Ills. July 10, 1860

HON. R. W. THOMPSON:

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 6th is received, and for which I thank you— I write this to acknowledge the receipt of it, and to say I take time (only a little) before answering the main matter—

If my *record* would *hurt* any, there is no hope that it will be over-looked; so that if friends can *help* any with it, they may as well do so— Of course, due caution and circumspection, will be used—

With reference to the same matter, of which you write, I wish you would watch Chicago a little— They are getting up a movement for the 17th Inst. I believe a line from you to John Wilson, late of the Genl. Land Office (I guess you know him well) would fix the matter—

When I shall have reflected a little, you will hear from me again—

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Burn this—

Springfield, Illinois, July 20, 1860.

HON. CASSIUS M. CLAY—

My dear Sir:—I see by the papers, and also learn from Mr. Nicolay, who saw you at Terre Haute, that you are filling a list of speaking-appointments in Indiana. I sincerely thank you for this, and I shall be still further obliged if you will, at the close of the tour, drop me a line, giving your impression of our prospects in that State.

Still more will you oblige me, if you will allow me to make a list of appointments in our State, commencing, say, at Marshall, in Clark County, and thence south and west along over Wabash and Ohio River border.

In passing, let me say, that at Rockport you will be in the county within which I was brought up, from my eighth year; having left Kentucky at that point of my life.

Yours, very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

LINCOLN'S LETTER TO A DISCOURAGED STUDENT

Springfield, Ills., July 22, 1860

MY DEAR—

I have scarcely felt greater pain in my life than learning yesterday from Bob's letter, that you had failed to enter Harvard University.

And yet there is very little in it, if you will allow no feeling of *discouragement* to seize, and prey upon you. It is a *certain* truth, that you *can* enter, and graduate in, Harvard University; and

having made the attempt, you *must* succeed in it. *Must* is the word—

I know not how to aid you, save in the assurance of one of mature age, and much severe experience, that you *can* not fail, if you resolutely determine that you *will* not.

The President of the institution can scarcely be other than a kind man; and doubtless he would grant you an interview, and point out the readiest way to remove, or overcome, the obstacles which have thwarted you—

In your temporary failure there is no evidence that you may not yet be a better scholar, and a more successful man in the great struggle of life, than many others, who have entered college more easily—

Again I say let no feeling of discouragement prey upon you, and in the end you are sure to succeed—

With more than a common interest I subscribe myself—

Very truly your friend,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. July 28, 1860

HON. CARL SCHURZ:

My dear Sir:

By the hand of J. G. Nicolay, whom you know, I send you the Scrap-book, containing the New Orleans speech you desire— It also contains the speeches made at Chicago, St. Louis, and Memphis, immediately after the election of 1858. If the Scrap-book will be of much further service to you, you can keep it, till opportunity occurs to return it; otherwise, let Mr. Nicolay bring it with him—

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills, July 29, 1860

HON. JAMES O. PUTNAM

My dear Sir

I have just read the speech you sent me, with your note of the 23rd attached. I do not mean to flatter you when I say it is, indeed, a very excellent one. The manner in which you point out to Gov. Hunt that his objections to the election of the Republican

candidate apply with manifold force to the candidate he would elect instead, is truly admirable.

And now allow me to name one error. John Adams was not elected over Jefferson by the H. R; but Jefferson was over Burr. Such is my recollection.

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. Aug. 14, 1860

T. A. CHENEY, Esq.

Dear Sir

Yours of the 10th is received and for which I thank you—I would cheerfully answer your questions in regard to the Fugitive Slave law, were it not that I consider it would be both imprudent, and contrary to the reasonable expectation of friends, for me to write, or speak anything upon doctrinal points now—Besides this, my published speeches contain nearly all I could willingly say—*Justice*, and *fairness to all*, is the utmost I have said, or will say—

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Private.

Springfield, Ill., Aug. 14, 1860.

JAMES E. HARVEY, Esq.,

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 9th inclosing the Spalding letter, is received. As to our *uneasy* friends in New York, (if there be such) all that can be said is "*Justice and fairness to all.*" More than this has not been, and can not be, said to any.

Whether you go to Tennessee must depend upon your own judgment—I expect to be constantly here; and I shall be much pleased to see you at any time.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Aug. 15, 1860

DR. WM. FITHIAN

My dear Sir,

I understand there is trouble in Old Vermilion about its next Representative to the Legislature. I have learned nothing as to

the grounds of the difficulty; but I will be greatly obliged if you will find a way of so adjusting it, that we do not lose that member. To lose Trumbull's re-election next winter would be a great disaster. Please do not let it fall upon us. I appeal to you because I can to no other, with so much confidence.

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Aug. 22, 1860.

MESSRS. GEO. BLISS & OTHERS, MANAGERS, &C.

Gentlemen:

Yours of the 8th inviting my attendance at your National Exhibition of Imported Blood, & American breeds of Horses, on the 4th, 5th 6th & 7th days of September, at Springfield, Mass., was received in due course, and should have been answered sooner.

For reasons not necessary to be mentioned, I am constrained to decline the honor which you so kindly tender me.

Your Obt. Servnt.,

A. LINCOLN.

Private

Springfield Ill. Aug. 31, 1860.

HON. JOHN ———.

My dear Sir—

Yours of the 27th is duly received. It consists almost exclusively of a historical detail of some local troubles among some of our friends in Pennsylvania, and I suppose its object is to guard me against forming a prejudice against Mr. McC— I have not heard near so much upon that subject as you probably suppose; and I am slow to listen to criminations among friends, and never expose their quarrels on either side. My sincere wish is that both sides will allow bygones to be bygones and look to the present & future only.

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, D. C.

Tell the boys of the Children's Village that they must follow truth, justice and humanity if they wish to become useful and honorable men.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Sept. 3, 1860

Springfield Ills. Sep. 6, 1860

CHARLES C. NOTT, Esq.

My dear Sir—Your note of the 1st with the accompanying sheets, reached me this morning. I have looked over the sheets hastily, and herewith return them. You perceive I have touched them only very lightly—The notes you add I have not attempted to compare with originals, leaving that entirely to you. I think the notes are exceedingly valuable. Before this reaches you, you will have received my letter in relation to "Abraham Baldwin"—

And now please accept for yourself, and present to the "Young Men's Republican Union" my grateful acknowledgements, for your and their exceeding kindness towards me in the matter.

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. Sep. 10, 1860

CHARLES G. WILSON, Esq

My dear Sir

Yours of the 6th is just received— I have pleasure in assuring you that there is no great pressure upon me for the offices in prospect— If, as you say, the newspapers & leading politicians, are intent upon schemes for the obtaining of office, they do not bring themselves within the range of my power to discourage them—

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

"THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

"To All Whom These Presents Shall Come, Greeting:

"Whereas, In pursuance of the Act of Congress, approved March 3, 1855, entitled An Act, in addition to certain Acts, Granting Bounty Land to certain officers and soldiers who have

been engaged in the military service of the United States, There has been deposited in the General Land Office, Warrant No. 68645, for 120 acres of land in favor of Abraham Lincoln, Captain Illinois Militia, Black Hawk War, with evidence that the same has been duly located upon the east half of the north-east quarter, and northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section eighteen, in Township eighty-four, north of Range thirty-nine west, in the district of Lands subject to sale at Council Bluffs, Iowa, containing one hundred and twenty acres, according to the official plat of the survey of the said land returned to the General Land Office by the Surveyor General, the said tract having been located by the said Abraham Lincoln.

"Know ye, That there is, therefore, granted by the United States unto the said Abraham Lincoln, heirs, and assigns forever.

"In Testimony, whereof, I, James Buchanan, President of the United States of America, have caused these Letters to be made Patent, and the seal of the General Land Office to be hereto affixed.

"(Seal)

"Given under my hand, at the City of Washington, the tenth day of September, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-fifth.

"By the President:

JAMES BUCHANAN.

"By J. B. LEONARD, Sec.

"G. W. Granger, Recorder of the General Land Office.

"Recorded vol. 468, page 53."

Springfield, Ills., Sep. 13, 1860

HON. JAMES O. PUTNAM •

My dear Sir

Your short letter, with the newspaper containing your late excellent speech at Rochester, was duly received, and for which I thank you sincerely.

You must not lay much stress on the blunder about Mr. Adams; for I made a more mischievous one, in the first printed speech of mine, on the Slavery question—Oct. 1854—I stated that the pro-

hibition of Slavery in the North West Territory was made a condition in the Virginia deed of cession—while, in fact, it was not. Like yourself, I have since done what I could to correct the error.

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills., Sep. 22, 1860.

CHARLES C. NOTT, Esq.,

My dear Sir:

Yours of the 17th was duly received— The 250 copies have not yet arrived— I am greatly obliged to you for what you have done, and what you propose to do—

The “Abraham Baldwin letter” in substance was that I could not find the Journal of the Confederation Congress for the session at which was passed the Ordinance of 1787—and that in stating Mr. Baldwin had voted for its passage, I had relied on a communication of Mr. Greeley, over his own signature, published in the New York Weekly Tribune of October 15, 1859— If you will turn to that paper, you will there see that Mr. Greeley apparently copies from the Journal, and places the name of Mr. Baldwin among those of the men who voted for the measure—

Still, if the Journal itself shows differently, of course it is right.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., Sep. 22, 1860

HON. JOHN VAN DYKE

My dear Sir:

Your very kind letter of the 17th is duly received; and for which I sincerely thank you— Hon. Moses Hampton has written me one under similar circumstances, he now being a Judge at Pittsburgh—

Please make my best respects to Mrs. V. D. of whom I have very pleasant recollections.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. Sep. 24, 1860

DEAR JOHN

Your letter of July 22—was received a few days ago— If your Father and Mother desire you to come home it is a delicate matter for me to advise you not to do it— Still, as you ask my advice, it is that if you are doing well, you better stick to it— If you have a good start there, and should give it up, you might not get it again, here, or elsewhere— It can not be other than their first wish that you shall do well.

And now, as to politics, I am very much obliged to you for what you offer to do for me in Oregon. This side of the Rocky Mountains things appear reasonably well for the general result— In opposing David Logan, at the late Congressional election in Oregon, I suppose you did what you thought was right; and when a man does what he thinks is right, he does the best he can— Still, I am sorry you did not think differently, as I knew David from his childhood, and he studied law in our office when his father and I were partners—

I heard from our relations over at Charleston, about three weeks ago, and they were well then—

Write me again when you receive this—

Your Uncle

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills., Sep. 26, 1860.

B. F. JAMES, Esq.

My dear Sir:

I have now had your kind letter for near a month without answering it. Nor have I much to communicate, even now, beyond what you know quite as well as I, by the public prints. So far as I have private information, the prospect for the election looks quite encouraging.

Please make my respects to Mrs. J. and Louis; and also to your Father.

Your friend, as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. Oct. 28. 1860.

HON R. W. THOMPSON

My dear Sir

Your very acceptable letter of the 20th sent by Express, was received only yesterday. I am indeed grateful for your generous course towards me so far; and I doubt not what you are doing, and will do, to the end of the contest is, and will be, the most judicious—

Your suggestions are all worthy of consideration, and shall receive it— The eyes of some of our best sentinels are already upon that matter of forged naturalization papers to be issued as from your court; and, if possible, the use of such papers will be prevented—

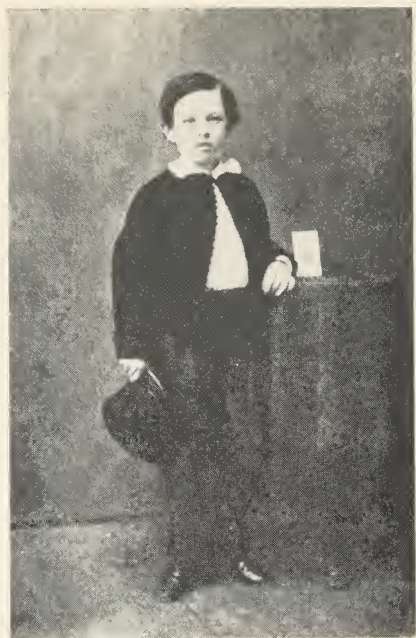
Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

ADDRESS OF HONORABLE ABRAHAM LINCOLN AT THE STATE FAIR
Nov. 7, 1860

My first suggestion is an inquiry as to the effect of greater *thoroughness* in all the departments of agriculture than now prevails in the Northwest—perhaps I might say in America. To speak entirely within bounds, it is known that fifty bushels of wheat, or one hundred bushels of Indian corn, can be produced from an acre. Less than a year ago I saw it stated that a man, by extraordinary care and labor, has produced of wheat what was equal to two hundred bushels from an acre. But take fifty of wheat, and one hundred of corn, to be the *possibility*, and compare it with the actual crops of the country. Many years ago I saw it stated in a Patent Office Report that eighteen bushels was the average crop throughout the United States; and this year an intelligent farmer of Illinois assured me that he did not believe the land harvested in that State this season had yielded more than an average of eight bushels to the acre.

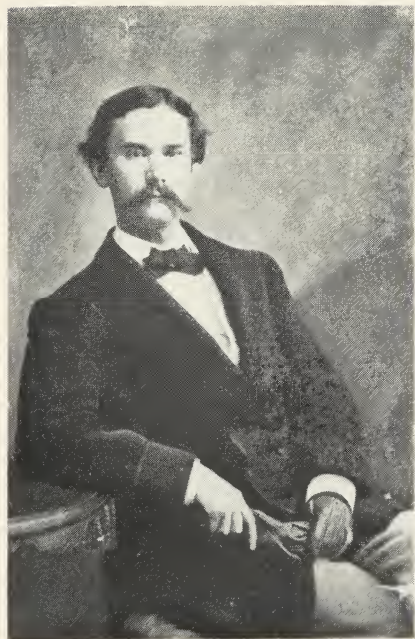
The “brag” crop I heard of in our vicinity was 2,000 bushels from ninety acres. Many crops were threshed, producing no more than three bushels to the acre; much was cut and much was abandoned as not worth cutting. As to Indian corn, and, indeed, most other crops, the case has not been much better. For the last four



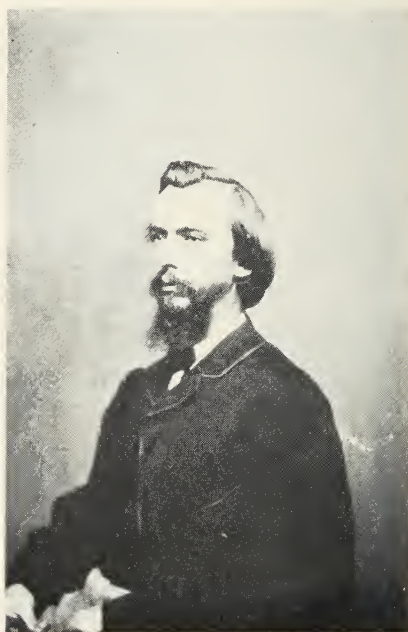
Thomas (Tad) Lincoln



William Wallace Lincoln



John Hay



John G. Nicolay

(From the Collection of Frederick Hill Meserve)

years, I do not believe the ground planted with corn in Illinois has produced an average of twenty bushels to the acre. It is true that heretofore we have had better crops with no better cultivators; but I believe it is also true that the soil has never been pushed up to one-half of its capacity.

What would be the effect upon the farming interest if the soil were pushed up to something near its full capacity? Undoubtedly it will take more labor to produce *fifty* bushels from an acre than it would to produce *ten* bushels from the same acre. But will it take any more labor to produce fifty bushels from *one* acre than it will from five?

Unquestionably, thorough cultivation will require more labor to the acre; but will it require more to the bushel? If it should require just as much to the bushel, there are some probable, and several certain advantages in favor of the thorough practice. It would also spare a large proportion of the expense of making and maintaining enclosures—the same whether such enclosures should be hedges, ditches or fences. This, again, is a heavy item—heavy at first, and heavy in its continual demand for repairs.

I remember once being greatly astonished by an apparently authentic exhibition of the proportion the cost of an enclosure bears to all the other expenses of the farm; though I cannot remember exactly what that proportion was. Any farmer, if he will, can ascertain it in his own case for himself.

Again, a great amount of “locomotion” is spared by a thorough cultivation. Take fifty bushels of wheat, ready for the harvest, standing upon a single acre, and it can be harvested in any of the known ways, with less than half the labor which would be required if it were spread over five acres. This would be true if cut by the old hand-sickle; true, to a greater extent, if by the machine now in use.

These machines are chiefly valuable as a means of substituting animal power for the power of men in this branch of farm work. In the highest degree of perfection yet reached in applying the horse-power to harvesting, fully nine-tenths of the power is expended by the animal in carrying himself and dragging the machine over the field, leaving certainly not more than one-tenth to be applied directly to the only end of the whole operation—the gathering in of the grain and clipping of the straw. When grain

is very thin on the ground it is more or less intermingled with weeds, cress and the like, and a large part of the power is expended in cutting these. It is therefore plain that when the crop is very thick upon the ground the larger proportion power is indirectly applied to gathering in and cutting it; and the smaller to that which is totally useless as an end.

And what I have said of harvesters is true, in a greater or less degree, of mowing, plowing, gathering in of crops generally, and, indeed, of almost all farm work.

The effect of thorough cultivation upon the farmer's own mind, and, in reaction through his mind, back upon his business, is perhaps quite equal to any other of its effects.

Every man is proud of what he does *well*; and no man is proud of what he does *not* do well. With the former, his heart is in his work; and he will do twice as much of it with less fatigue. The latter performs a little imperfectly, looks at it in disgust, turns from it, and imagines himself exceedingly tired. The little he has done comes to naught for want of finishing.

The man who produces a good, full crop will scarcely ever let any part of it go to waste. He will keep up the inclosure about it and will allow neither man nor beast to trespass upon it. He will gather it in due season and store it in perfect security. Thus he labors with satisfaction and saves for himself the whole fruit of his labor. The other starting with no purpose for a full crop, labors less, and with less satisfaction; allows his fence to fall, and cattle to trespass; gathers not in due season, or not at all. Thus the labor he has performed is wasted away little by little, until in the end he derives scarcely anything from it.

The ambition for broad acres leads to poor farming, even with men of energy. I scarcely ever knew a mammoth farm to sustain itself, much less to return a profit on the outlay.

I have more than once known a man to spend a respectable fortune upon one; fail and lose it; and then some man of modest aims gets a small section of the ground and makes a good living at it. Mammoth farms are like tools, or weapons, which are too heavy to be handled. Ere long they are thrown aside at a great loss.

Weekly Illinois State Journal, Wednesday, Nov. 7, 1860.

Springfield, Nov. 12, 1860

Mr. Hale will oblige me, if he will send by the bearer the Chicago Tribune we were looking at this morning.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

(\$35.00)

Springfield, Ill. Nov. 16—1860.

Sixty days after date I promise to pay to L. S. Benedict, Esq. or order Thirty-five dollars—with interest at 6 per cent, till paid—

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield Ills, Nov. 16, 1860

TO THE SECRETARIES OF THE ST. MARIE BRASS BAND
& ST. CECILIA SOCIETY

Gentlemen

I have received yr very kind & flattering invitation to be present at the annual dinner given by your Societies on the 22d Inst—being St. Cecilia's day: the patron St. of music.

It would have given me much pleasure to be with you on that day, but I am forced by circumstances to decline the honor—

I have often heard of Ste. Marie & it's inhabitants & always felt a strong desire to make the acquaintance not only of the inhabitants but more particularly that of the members of both your societies whom (if I am not misinformed) devote a good portion of their leisure in receiving instructions in vocal & instrumental music from Dr.—his name has escaped me but as I understand he is a steadfast & energetic Republican. I would advise you *all* to pay due attention to his lessons—

Ere I would close this hasty Epistle I would beg to remind you that *Music* is a very useful art— Many persons are now busy to ascertain what your next President delighted in during his younger days? I will here tell you *Confidentially* that my greatest pleasure when taking a rest after splitting rails, was to play a solo on the Jews Harp—

Now keep this to yourselves

& believe me

Very truly Yr friend

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

N.B.

I have heard that "Secession" in one of Yr Societies had been practised. Let me implore you to adhere strictly to the letter of your Constitutions—

Envelope:

A. L.

A. Lincoln

M. C.

(This letter was written and signed for Lincoln.)

Springfield, Ill. Nov. 19, 1860

DAVID TURNHAM, ESQ.

My dear old friend,

Your kind letter of the 17th is received. I am very glad that you are still living and well. I remember when you and I last met, after a separation of fourteen years, at the crossroad voting place in the fall of 1844. It is now sixteen years more and we are no longer young men. I suppose you are a grandfather; and I, though married much later in life, have a son nearly grown.

I would like much to visit the old home, and old friends of my boyhood, but I fear the chance for doing so is not very good.

Your friend and sincere well-wisher.

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ills. Nov. 19, 1860

DEAR SPEED.

Yours of the 14th is received. I shall be at Chicago Thursday the 22nd. Inst. and one or two succeeding days. Could you not meet me there?

Mary thinks of going with me; and therefore I suggest that Mrs. S. accompany you.

Please let this be private, as I prefer a very great crowd should not gather at Chicago.

Respects to Mrs. S.

Your friend, as ever

A. LINCOLN.

LINCOLN ON DISUNION AND ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
REPUBLICAN PARTY

Endorsed by Lyman Trumbull, in pencil, at head "Furnished by Mr. Lincoln & copied into my remarks, to be read at the Celebration at Springfield, Ill., Nov. 20, 1860."

The occasion was a meeting in celebration of the election of Lincoln and Hamlin. Speeches were made by Trumbull, Palmer and Yates. Lincoln desired that the influence of this public meeting should be peaceful and instead of speaking as he had been urged to, on the growing agitation for disunion in the South, he wrote the above manuscript and asked Trumbull to embody it in his speech. We quote the closing portion: "Disunionists *per se*, are now in hot haste to get out of the Union, precisely because they perceive they cannot, much longer, maintain an apprehension among the Southern people that their homes, and firesides, and lives, are to be endangered by the action of the Federal Government. With such '*Now, or never*' is the maxim— I am rather glad of this military preparation in the South— It will enable the people the more easily to suppress any uprisings there, which their misrepresentations of purposes may have encouraged."

Bloomington, Nov. 21, 1860.

FELLOW CITIZENS OF BLOOMINGTON AND McLEAN COUNTY:— I am glad to meet you after a longer separation than has been common between you and me. I thank you for the good report you made of the election in old McLean. The people of the country have again fixed up their affairs for a constitutional period of time. By the way, I think very much of the people as an old friend said he thought of woman. He said when he lost his first wife, who had been a great help to him in his business, he thought he was ruined, that he could never find another to fill her place. At length, however, he married another, who he found did quite as well as the first, and that his opinion now was that any woman would do well who was well done by. So I think of the whole people of this nation: they will ever do well if well done by. We will try

to do well by them in all parts of the country, North and South, with entire confidence that all will be well with all of us.

Nov. 22 (?) 1860

JOSHUA R. GIDDINGS

My good friend:

Your very kind and acceptable letter of the 19th was duly handed me by Mr. Tuck. It is indeed most grateful to my feelings that the responsible position assigned me comes without conditions, save only such honorable ones as are fairly implied. I am not wanting in the purpose though I may fail in the strength to maintain my freedom from bad influences. Your letter comes to my aid in this point most opportunely. May the Almighty grant that the cause of truth, justice and humanity shall in no wise suffer at my hands. Mrs. L. joins me in sincere wishes for your health, happiness and long life.

A. LINCOLN.

Chicago, Nov. 26 1860

H. C. WHITNEY, Esq

My dear Sir,

Your note in behalf of Mr. Alshuler was received— I gave him a sitting— I regret not having an opportunity to see more of you—

Please present my respects to Mrs. W. & to your good Father & Mother

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Private & Confidential.

Springfield, Ills. Dec. 11, 1860

HON. WILLIAM KELLOGG,

My dear Sir—

Entertain no proposition for a compromise in regard to the *extension* of slavery— The instant you do, they have us under again; all our labor is lost, and sooner or later must be done over— Douglas is said to be again trying to bring in his "Pop.

Sov." Have none of it. The tug has to come & better now than later.

You know I think the fugitive slave clause of the constitution ought to be enforced—to put it on the mildest form, ought not to be resisted— In haste

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

Confidential

Springfield, Ills., Dec. 18, 1860.

HON. JNO. D. DEFREES.

My dear Sir

Yours of the 15th is received. I am sorry any Republican inclines to dally with Pop. Sov. of any sort. It acknowledges that slavery has equal rights with liberty, and surrenders all we have contended for. Once fastened on us as a settled policy, filibustering for all South of us, and making slave states of it, follows in spite of us, with an early Supreme Court decision, holding our free-state constitutions to be unconstitutional.

Would Scott or Stephens go into the Cabinet? And, if yea, on what terms? Do they come to me? or I go to them? Or are we to lead off in open hostility to each other?

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Confidential

Springfield, Ill., Dec. 21, 1860.

HON. A. G. CURTIN.

My dear sir:

Yours of the 14th was only received last night. I am obliged by your kindness in asking my views in advance of preparing your inaugural. I think of nothing proper for me to suggest except a word about this secession and this union movement— On that subject, I think you would do well to express without passion, threat or appearance of boasting, but nevertheless, with firmness, the purpose of yourself, and your State to maintain the Union at all hazards. Also if you can, procure the legislature to pass resolutions to that effect— I shall be very glad to see your friend,

the Attorney General, that is to be, but I think he need scarcely make a trip merely to confer with me on the subject you mentioned.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

DISCOVERIES AND INVENTIONS

A Lecture by Abraham Lincoln delivered in Springfield, Ill.

All creation is a mine, and every man a miner.

The whole earth, and all *within* it, *upon* it, and *round about* it, including *himself*, in his physical, moral, and intellectual nature, and his susceptibilities, are the infinitely various "leads" from which, man, from the first, was to dig out his destiny.

In the beginning, the mine was unopened, and the miner stood *naked*, and *knowledgeless*, upon it.

Fishes, birds, beasts, and creeping things, are not miners, but *feeders* and *lodgers* merely. Beavers build houses; but they build them in nowise differently, or better now, than they did, five thousand years ago. Ants and honey bees provide food for winter; but just in the *same way* they did, when Solomon referred the sluggard to them as patterns of prudence.

Man is not the only animal who labors; but he is the only one who *improves* his workmanship. This improvement he effects by *Discoveries* and *Inventions*. His first important discovery was the fact that he was naked; and his first invention was the fig-leaf apron. This simple article, the apron, made of leaves, seems to have been the origin of *clothing*—the one thing for which nearly half of the toil and care of the human race has ever since been expended. The most important improvement ever made in connection with clothing, was the invention of *spinning* and *weaving*. The spinning jenny, and power loom, invented in modern times, though great *improvements*, do not, *as inventions*, rank with the ancient arts of spinning and weaving. Spinning and weaving brought into the department of clothing such abundance and variety of material. Wool, the hair of several species of animals, hemp, flax, cotton, silk, and perhaps other articles, were all suited to it, affording garments not only adapted to wet and dry, heat and cold, but also susceptible of high degrees of ornamental finish.

Exactly *when*, or *where*, spinning and weaving originated is not known. At the first interview of the Almighty with Adam and Eve, after the fall, He made "coats of skins, and clothed them" (Genesis iii: 21).

The Bible makes no other allusion to clothing, *before* the flood. Soon *after* the deluge Noah's two sons covered him with a *garment*; but of what *material* the garment was made is not mentioned (Genesis ix: 23).

Abraham mentions "*thread*" in such connection as to indicate that spinning and weaving were in use in his day (Genesis xiv: 23), and soon after, reference to the art is frequently made. "*Linen breeches*" are mentioned (Exodus xxviii: 42), and it is said "all the women that were wise-hearted did *spin* with their hands" (Exodus xxxv: 25), and, "all the women whose heart stirred them up in wisdom *spun* goats' hair" (Exodus xxxv: 26). The work of the "*weaver*" is mentioned (Exodus xxxv: 35). In the book of Job, a very old book, date not exactly known, the "*weavers' shuttle*" is mentioned.

The above mention of "*thread*" by Abraham is the oldest recorded allusion to spinning and weaving; and *it* was made about two thousand years after the creation of man, and now, near four thousand years ago. Profane authors think these arts originated in Egypt; and this is not contradicted, or made improbable, by anything in the Bible; for the allusion of Abraham, mentioned, was not made until after he had sojourned in Egypt.

The discovery of the properties of *iron*, and the making of *iron tools*, must have been among the earliest of important discoveries and inventions. We can scarcely conceive the possibility of making much of anything else, without the use of iron tools. Indeed, an iron *hammer* must have been very much needed to make the *first* iron hammer with. A *stone* probably served as a substitute. How could the "*gopher wood*" for the Ark have been gotten out without an axe? It seems to me an axe, or a miracle, was indispensable. Corresponding with the prime necessity for iron, we find at least one very early notice of it. Tubal-Cain was "an instructor of every artificer in *brass* and *iron*" (Genesis iv: 22). Tubal-Cain was the seventh in descent from Adam; and his birth was about one thousand years before the flood. *After* the flood, frequent mention is made of *iron*, and *instruments* made of iron. Thus "in-

strument of iron" at Numbers xxxv:16; "bedstead of iron" at Deuteronomy iii:11; "the iron furnace" at Deuteronomy iv:20, and "iron tool" at Deuteronomy xxvii:5. At Deuteronomy xix:5, very distinct mention of "the ax to cut down the tree" is made; and also at Deuteronomy viii:9, the promised land is described as "a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass." From the somewhat frequent mention of brass in connection with iron, it is not improbable that brass—perhaps what we now call copper—was used by the ancients for some of the same purposes as iron.

Transportation—the removal of person and goods from place to place—would be an early *object*, if not a *necessity*, with man. By his natural powers of locomotion, and without much assistance from discovery and invention, he could move himself about with considerable facility; and even, could carry small burthens with him. But very soon he would wish to lessen the labor, while he might, at the same time, extend, and expedite the business. For this object, wheel-carriages, and water-crafts—wagons and boats—are the most important inventions. The use of the wheel and axle has been so long known, that it is difficult, without reflection, to estimate it at its true value. The oldest recorded allusion to the wheel and axle is the mention of a "chariot" (Genesis xli:43). This was in Egypt, upon the occasion of Joseph being made governor by Pharaoh. It was about twenty-five hundred years after the creation of Adam. That the chariot then mentioned was a wheel-carriage drawn by animals is sufficiently evidenced by the mention of chariot *wheels* (Exodus xiv:25), and the mention of chariots in connection with *horses* in the same chapter, verses 9 and 23. So much, at present, for land transportation.

Now, as to transportation by *water*, I have concluded, without sufficient authority perhaps, to use the term "boat" as a general name for all water-craft. The boat is indispensable to navigation. It is not probable that the philosophical principle upon which the use of the boat primarily depends—to-wit, the *principle*, that anything will float, which cannot sink without displacing more than its own *weight* of water—was known, or even thought of, before the first boats were made. The sight of a crow standing on a piece of driftwood floating down the swollen current of a creek or river,

might well enough suggest the specific idea to a savage, that he could himself get upon a log, or on two logs tied together, and somehow work his way to the opposite shore of the same stream. Such a suggestion, so taken, would be the birth of navigation; and such, not improbably, it really was. The leading idea was thus caught; and whatever came afterwards, were but improvements upon, and auxiliaries to, it.

As man is a land animal, it might be expected he would learn to travel by land somewhat earlier than he would by water. Still the crossing of streams, somewhat too deep for wading, would be an early necessity with him. If we pass by the Ark, which may be regarded as belonging rather to the *miraculous* than to *human* invention, the first notice we have of water-craft is the mention of "ships" by Jacob (Genesis xlix: 13). It is not till we reach the book of Isaiah that we meet with the mention of "oars" and "sails."

As man's *food*—his first necessity—was to be derived from the vegetation of the earth, it was natural that his first care should be directed to the assistance of that vegetation. And accordingly we find that, even before the fall, the man was put into the garden of Eden "to dress it, and to keep it." And when afterwards, in consequence of the first transgression, *labor* was imposed on the race, as a *penalty*—a *curse*—we find the first born man—the first heir of the curse—was "a tiller of the ground." This was the beginning of agriculture; and although, both in point of time, and of importance, it stands at the head of all branches of human industry, it has derived less direct advantage from Discovery and Invention than almost any other. The plow, of very early origin; and reaping, and threshing machines, of modern invention are, at this day, the principal improvements in agriculture. And even the oldest of these, the plow, could not have been conceived of until a precedent conception had been caught, and put into practice—I mean the conception, or idea, of substituting other forces in nature, for man's own muscular power. These other forces, as now used, are principally, the *strength* of animals, and the *power* of the wind, of running streams, and of steam.

Climbing upon the back of an animal, and making it carry us, might not occur very readily. I think the back of the camel would never have suggested it. It was, however, a matter of vast impor-

tance. The earliest instance of it mentioned, is when "Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass" (Genesis xxii: 3), preparatory to sacrificing Isaac as a burnt-offering; but the allusion to the *saddle* indicates that riding had been in use some time; for it is quite probable they rode bare-backed awhile, at least, before they invented saddles.

The *idea*, being once conceived, of riding *one* species of animals, would soon be extended to others. Accordingly we find that when the servant of Abraham went in search of a wife for Isaac, he took ten *camels* with him; and, on his return trip, "Rebekah arose, and her damsels, and they rode upon the camels, and followed the man" (Genesis xxiv: 61).

The *horse*, too, as a riding animal, is mentioned early. The Red Sea being safely passed, Moses and the children of Israel sang to the Lord "the *horse* and his *rider* hath he thrown into the sea" (Exodus xv: 1).

Seeing that animals could bear *man* upon their backs, it would soon occur that they could also bear other burthens. Accordingly we find that Joseph's brethren, on their first visit to Egypt, "laded their asses with the corn, and departed thence" (Genesis xlii: 26).

Also it would occur that animals could be made to *draw* burthens *after* them, as well as to bear them upon their backs; and hence plows and chariots came into use early enough to be often mentioned in the books of Moses (Deuteronomy xxii: 10; Genesis xli: 43; xlii: 29; Exodus xiv: 25).

Of all the forces of nature, I should think the *wind* contains the largest amount of *motive power*—that is, power to move things. Take any given space of the earth's surface—for instance, Illinois; and all the power exerted by all the men, and beasts, and running-water, and steam, over and upon it, shall not equal the one hundredth part of what is exerted by the blowing of the wind over and upon the same space. And yet it has not, so far in the world's history, become proportionably *valuable* as a motive power. It is applied extensively, and advantageously, to sail-vessels in navigation. Add to this a few wind-mills, and pumps, and you have about all. That, as yet, no very successful mode of *controlling*, and *directing* the wind has been discovered; and that,

naturally, it moves by fits and starts—now so gently as to scarcely stir a leaf, and now so roughly as to level a forest—doubtless have been the insurmountable difficulties. As yet, the wind is an *untamed*, and *unharnessed* force; and quite possibly one of the greatest discoveries hereafter to be made, will be the taming and harnessing of it. That the difficulties of controlling this power are very great is quite evident by the fact that they have already been perceived, and struggled with more than three thousand years; for that power was applied to sail-vessels, at least as early as the time of the prophet Isaiah.

In speaking of *running streams*; as a motive power, I mean its application to mills and other machinery by means of the “*water wheel*”—a thing now well known, and extensively used; but of which no mention is made in the Bible, though it is thought to have been in use among the Romans. (Am. Ency.-Mill), the language of the Saviour “Two women shall be grinding at the mill, etc.” indicates that, even in the populous city of Jerusalem, at that day, mills were operated by hand—having, as yet had no other than human power applied to them.

The advantageous use of *Steam-power* is, unquestionably, a modern discovery. And yet, as much as two thousand years ago the power of steam was not only observed, but an ingenious toy was actually made and put in motion by it, at Alexandria in Egypt. What appears strange is, that neither the inventor of the toy, nor any one else, for so long a time afterwards, should perceive that steam would move *useful* machinery as well as a toy.

Springfield, Ills. Jan. 21, 1861.

MR. MATIAS ROMERO,

My dear Sir:

Allow me to thank you for your polite call, as Charge d. Affaires of Mexico— While, as yet I can do no official act on behalf of the United States, as one of it's citizens, I tender the expression of my sincere wishes for the happiness, prosperity, and liberty of yourself, your government, and its people—

Your Obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

Private

Springfield, Jan'y. 21st, 1861.

PETER PAGE, Esq.

Dear Sir: While an almost overwhelming amount of business and correspondence has prevented my sooner answering your letter of the 3d inst., you may rest assured that it has neither been forgotten nor overlooked. Permit me now to return you my heartfelt thanks for your very generous offer of both personal service and pecuniary aid, to secure my inauguration. While it is a very gratifying personal compliment to myself, I prize it more highly as an evidence of the public loyalty and devotion to our Government which I am confident almost unanimously pervades the people of this state. Happily, I think there is no immediate necessity for employing the proffered help, and while I hope the ten thousand dollars you propose to give may always be employed in the peaceful channels of business or commerce, I am pleased to have the assurance that in the event of trouble or danger, you and others stand ready to give both your lives and your fortunes to the defense and maintenance of the government and the Union.

Your obedient Servant,

A. LINCOLN.

Private

Springfield, Ill. Jan'y 22 1861

ISAAC FENNO Esq

Dear Sir

Your note of the 1st inst., together with a very substantial and handsome overcoat which accompanied it by Express, were duly received by me, and would both have been acknowledged sooner but for the multifarious demands upon my time and attention.

Permit me now to thank you sincerely for your elegant and valuable New Year's Gift, and the many kind expressions of personal confidence and regard contained in your letter.

Your Obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill. January 22, 1861.

S. AUSTIN ALLIBONE

Yours of the 18th with the manuscript letter of Gen. Wool, herewith returned, and newspaper slips, is received, and for all

which please accept my thanks. A few days since I received a highly valued letter from Genl. Wool himself, which, being marked 'private,' perhaps it were better not to speak of publicly.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Fellow Citizens—I thank you for this mark of kindness toward me. I have been shut up in Springfield for the last few months, and therefore have been unable to greet you, as I was formerly in the habit of doing. I am passing on my way to Chicago, and am happy in doing so to be able to meet so many of my friends in Logan County, and if to do no more to exchange with you the compliments of the season and to thank you for the many kindnesses you have manifested toward me. I am not in the habit of making speeches now, and I would therefore ask to be excused from entering upon any discussion of the political topics of the day. I am glad to see so many happy faces, and to listen to so many pleasant expressions. Again thanking you for this honor, I will pass on my journey.

(Interview published in the *New York Tribune*, January 30, 1861.)

I will suffer death before I will consent or advise my friends to consent to any concession or compromise which looks like buying the privilege of taking possession of the Government to which we have a constitutional right; because, whatever I might think of the merit of the various propositions before Congress, I should regard any concession in the face of menace as the destruction of the Government itself, and a consent on all hands that our system shall be brought down to a level with the existing disorganized state of affairs in Mexico. But this thing will hereafter be, as it is now, in the hands of the people, and if they desire to call a convention to remove any grievances complained of, or to give new guarantees for the permanence of vested rights, it is not mine to oppose.

Private

Springfield, Ills. Feb. 2, 1861.

GEO. D. PRENTICE, Esq

My dear Sir

Yours of the 31st ult, requesting a copy of the inaugural is received— I have the document already blocked out; but in the now rapidly shifting scenes, I shall have to hold it subject to revision up to near the time of delivery— So soon as it shall take what I can regard as it's final shape, I shall remember, if I can, to send you a copy—

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 10, 1861.

MR. I. R. DILLER:

Mr. Dear Mr. Diller—With grateful acknowledgements and unfeigned thanks for the personal respects and evidence of kindness and the many favors from you.

And as I am about to leave Springfield, and cannot see you personally, I deem it my duty to bid you farewell.

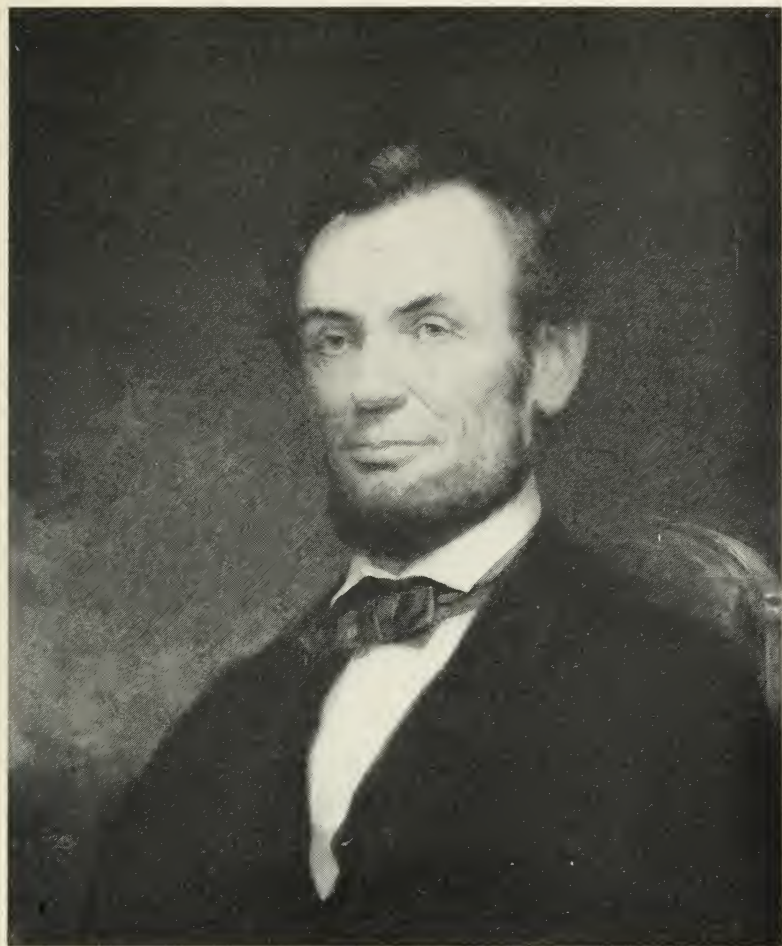
I assure you Springfield and its citizens are very dear to me. It will only be a matter of time (if I live), and return again with the dispensation of Divine Prov.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

UNREVISED FAREWELL SPEECH TO SPRINGFIELD NEIGHBORS
February 11, 1861

FRIENDS,—No one who has never been placed in a like position can understand my feelings at this hour, nor the oppressive sadness I feel at this parting. For more than a quarter of a century I have lived among you, and during all that time I have received nothing but kindness at your hands. Here I have lived from my youth, until now I am an old man. Here the most sacred ties of earth were assumed. Here all my children were born; and here one of them lies buried. To you, dear friends, I owe all that I have, all that I am. *All the strange, checkered past seems to crowd now upon my mind.* To-day I leave you. I go to assume a task more



Portrait by George H. Story
(Courtesy Knoedler & Co.)

difficult than that which devolved upon Washington. Unless the great God, who assisted him, shall be with and aid me, I must fail; but if the same omniscient mind and almighty arm that directed and protected him shall guide and support me, I shall not fail,—I shall succeed. Let us all pray that the God of our fathers may not forsake us now. To him I commend you all. Permit me to ask, that, with equal security and faith, you will invoke his wisdom and guidance for me. With these few words I must leave you: for how long I know not. Friends, one and all, I must now bid you an affectionate farewell.

TO INDIANA COMMITTEE

Feb. 11, 1861

GENTLEMEN OF INDIANA: I am happy to meet you on this occasion and enter again the state of my early life and of almost my maturity. I am under many obligations to you for your kind reception and to Indiana for the aid she rendered our cause which I think is a just one. Gentlemen, I shall address you at greater length at Indianapolis, but not much greater. Again gentlemen, I thank you for your warm hearted reception.

Lafayette, Ind. Feb. 11, 1861.

FELLOW CITIZENS: We have seen great changes within the recollections of some of us who are older. When first I came to the west some 44 or 45 years ago, at sundown you had completed a journey of some thirty miles which you had commenced at sunrise and thought you had done well. Now only six hours have elapsed since I left my home in Illinois, where I was surrounded by a large concourse of my fellow citizens almost all of whom I could recognize, and I find myself far from home and surrounded by thousands I now see before me who are strangers to me. Still we are bound together in Christianity, civilization, and patriotism and our attachment to our country and our whole country. While some of us may differ in political opinions, still we are all united in one feeling for the Union. We all believe in the maintenance of the Union, of every star and every stripe of the glo-

rious flag, and permit me to express my sentiment that upon the union of the states there shall be between us no difference.

My friends, I meet many friends at every place on my journey, and I should weary myself should I talk at length, therefore permit me to bid you an affectionate farewell.

MARKER ON CLAYPOOL HOTEL, INDIANAPOLIS

"Here February 11, 1861 Abraham Lincoln on his way to Washington to assume the presidency in an address said: 'I appeal to you to constantly bear in mind that not with politicians, not with presidents, not with office-seekers but with you is the question, Shall the Union, shall the liberties of this country be preserved to the latest generations?'"

Lincoln at Lawrenceburg, Ind., Feb. 11, 1861.

I say to you that the power intrusted to me shall be exercised as perfectly to protect the rights of your neighbors across the river, as of your own.

A voice in the crowd cried out, "May the rulers be as right as the people."

Mr. Lincoln replied: Yes, and let me tell you, if the people remain right your public men can never betray you. If I, in my brief connection with public affairs, shall be wicked or foolish, and if you remain true and honest, you cannot be betrayed.

Speech at Fishkill Landing, N. Y., Feb. 19, 1861.

I appear before you not to make a speech. I have no sufficient time, if I had the strength, to repeat speeches at every station where the people kindly gather to welcome me as we go along. If I had the strength and should take the time, I should not get to Washington until after inauguration, which you must be aware would not fit exactly. That such an untoward event might not transpire, I know you will readily forego any further remarks.

Lincoln at City Hall, New York City, on Feb. 20, 1861.

FRIENDS: I do not appear for the purpose of making a speech. I design to make no speech. I came merely to see you, and allow you to see me. (Cheers.) And I have to say to you, as I have said frequently to audiences on my journey, that, in the sight, I have the best of the bargain (Tremendous cheers). Assuming that you are all for the Constitution, the Union (renewed cheering) and the perpetual liberties of this people, I bid you farewell. (Cheers.)

Lincoln at Newark, Feb. 21, 1861.

MR. MAYOR: I thank you for the reception to your city, and would say in response, that I bring a heart sincerely devoted to the work you desire I should do. With my own ability I cannot succeed, without the sustenance of Divine Providence, and of this great free, happy, and intelligent people. Without these I cannot hope to succeed; with them I cannot fail. Again I return you my thanks.

Lincoln in Jersey City, Feb. 21, 1861.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, I shall only thank you briefly for this very kind and cordial reception—not as given to me individually, but as to the representative of the Chief Magistracy of this great nation. I cannot make any speech now to you, as I shall be met frequently to-day in the same manner as you have received me here, and, therefore, have not the strength to address you at length. I am here before you care-worn, for little else than to greet you, and to say farewell. You have done me the very high honor to present your reception of me through your own great man—a man with whom it is an honor to be associated with anywhere—a man with whom no state could be poor. [Applause, long continued.] His remarks of welcome, though brief, deserve an hour's well-considered reply; but time, and the obligations before me, render it necessary for me to close my remarks. Allow me to bid you a kind and grateful farewell. There appears to be a desire to see more of me, and I can only say that from my position, especially when I look

around the gallery (bowing to the ladies) I feel that I have decidedly the best of the bargain, and in this matter I am for no compromise here. [Applause and much laughter.]

Lincoln in Trenton, Feb. 21, 1861.

I have been invited by your representatives to the Legislature, to visit this, the capital of your honored State, and in acknowledging their kind invitation, compelled to respond to the welcome of the presiding officers of each body, and I suppose they intended I should speak to you through them, as they are the representatives of all of you; and if I was to speak again here, I should only have to repeat in a great measure much that I have said, which would be disgusting to my friends around me who have met here. I have no speech to make (Voice, "That's right.") but merely appear to see you and let you look at me; and as to the latter, I think I have greatly the best of the bargain. (Laughter.) My friends, allow me to bid you farewell.

Feb. 22, 1861

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF LANCASTER COUNTY—I am happy to meet the citizens of this great county face to face, but I do not feel prepared to make a speech to you to-day. I have not the time now nor the strength, and, what is more, have no speech to make. I have come more to see you and let you see me. He then complimented the ladies, and said in this respect he had the advantage of seeing them, and, therefore, had the better of the bargain. As regards the gentlemen he could not say much. I might make a long speech, as there is plenty of matter in the conditions that exist, but I think the more a man speaks in these days the less he is understood. As Solomon says, there is a time for all things, and I think the present is a time for silence. In a few days the time will be here for me to speak officially, and I will then endeavor to speak plainly in regard to the Constitution and the liberties of the American people. Until I so speak I deem it unnecessary to say more. I would again greet my friends most heartily and bid them farewell.

Jan. or Feb., 1861.

Mr. Lincoln drafted a preamble and resolutions which he caused to be adopted by the Illinois Legislature, which were entered in the House and Senate journals as follows:

“Mr Jarrot, from the Committee on Federal Relations, to which was referred sundry resolutions referring to the condition of the Union, reported the same back with the following preamble and resolutions:

“Whereas, although the people of the State of Illinois do not desire any change in our Federal Constitution, yet as in several of our sister States have indicated that they deem it necessary that some amendment should be made thereto; and

“Whereas, In and by the Fifth Article of the Constitution of the United States, provision is made for proposing amendments to that instrument either by Congress or by a convention; and

“Whereas, a desire has been expressed in various parts of the United States for a convention to propose amendments to the Constitution; therefore, be it

“Resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, That if application shall be made to Congress by any of the States deeming themselves aggrieved, to call a convention, in accordance with the constitutional provisions aforesaid, to propose amendments to the Constitution of these United States, that the Legislature of the State of Illinois will and does hereby concur in making such application.

“Resolved, That until the people of these United States shall otherwise direct, the present Federal Union must be preserved as it is, and the present Constitution and laws must be administered as they are; and to this end, in conformity to that Constitution and the laws, the whole resources of the State of Illinois are hereby pledged to the Federal authorities.

“Resolved, That copies of the above preamble and resolutions be sent to each of the Representatives and Senators in Congress and to the Executives of the several States.” *

* Footnote—The preamble and resolutions were voted on separately and as a whole and were adopted by the House. (House Journal, pp. 301, 302, 303, 304, Feb. 1.) Concurred in by Senate. (Senate Journal, p. 231, Feb. 2, 1861.) Concurrence reported back to House. (House Journal, p. 534, Feb. 13, 1861.) Printed also in the Public Laws of 1861, p. 281.

About March, 1861.

A day or two after the entrance of the President elect into Washington, the republican delegation from New Jersey had a formal interview with him at his rooms in Willard's Hotel, to urge upon him a suitable recognition of Mr. Dayton in the formation of his cabinet. Senator Ten Eyck was made the spokesman of the delegation, and he opened the subject with a somewhat elaborate statement of the worth, talents, and party claims of the distinguished Jerseyman. Mr. Lincoln's reply follows; "It is not necessary," he said, "to speak to me in praise of Mr. Dayton; I have known him since we served in the different houses of Congress, at the same time, and there is no public man for whose character I have a higher admiration. When the telegraphic wires brought to Springfield the news of my election, my first thought was, that I would have him associated with me in council, and would make him secretary of state. But New York is a great State, and Mr. Seward has many friends, and I was compelled by the pressure upon me to give up the thought. I then desired to arrange for him some other cabinet position, commensurate with his abilities; but Pennsylvania—another great State, you know—was bound to have a place for Mr. Cameron, and I again reluctantly yielded. I then said to myself, Mr. Dayton deserves the best place abroad, and I will send him to the court of St. James. But New England pressed her claims for notice, and united upon Mr. Adams, and I was driven from that purpose. I then thought of the French mission, and wondered if that would not suit him. I have put my foot down now, and will not be moved. I shall offer that place to Mr. Dayton, and hope it will prove satisfactory to him and his friends."

The interview here ended. The President adhered to his resolution, and offered to him the mission to France, which, after some hesitation, he accepted.

In a letter transmitting the remarks and resolutions adopted at a meeting in New York to raise funds for the suffering loyalists in North Carolina George Bancroft added: "Your administration has fallen upon times which will be remembered as long as human events find a record. I sincerely wish to you the glory of perfect

success. Civil War is the instrument of Divine Providence to root out social slavery; posterity will not be satisfied with the result, unless the consequences of war shall effect an increase of free States. This is the universal expectation and hope of men of all parties."

To this Mr. Lincoln replied:

"I esteem it a high honor to have received a note from Mr. Bancroft, indorsing the report of proceedings of a New York meeting taking measures for the relief of Union people of North Carolina. I thank you and all others participating for this benevolent and patriotic movement. The main thought in the closing paragraph of your letter is one which does not escape my attention, and with which I must deal in all due caution, and with the best judgment I can bring to it."

Mr. Lincoln said, in reply to the Senate Inauguration Committee, when notified of his election to the office of President of the United States for the next four years, as follows:

GENTLEMEN: With deep gratitude to my countrymen for this mark of their confidence, with a distrust of my own ability to perform the required duty under the most favorable circumstances, now rendered doubly difficult by existing national perils, yet with a firm reliance on the strength of our free Government and the ultimate loyalty of the people to the just principles upon which it is founded, and above all, an unshaken faith in the Supreme Ruler of nations, I accept this trust. Be pleased to signify my acceptance to the respective Houses of Congress.

LINCOLN'S FIRST INAUGURAL AS ORIGINALLY WRITTEN IN SPRINGFIELD

In compliance with a custom as old as the government itself, I appear before you to address you briefly, and to take, in your presence, the oath prescribed by the Constitution of the United States, to be taken by the President "before he enters on the execution of his office."

The more modern custom of electing a Chief Magistrate upon a previously declared platform of principles, supersedes, in a great

measure, the necessity of re-stating those principles in an address of this sort. Upon the plainest grounds of good faith, one so elected is not at liberty to shift his position. It is necessarily implied, if not expressed, that, in his judgment, the platform which he thus accepts, binds him to nothing either unconstitutional or inexpedient.

Having been so elected upon the Chicago Platform, and while I would repeat nothing in it, of aspersion or epithet or question of motive against any man or party, I hold myself bound by duty, as well as impelled by inclination to follow, within the executive sphere, the principles therein declared. By no other course could I meet the reasonable expectations of the country.

I do not consider it necessary at present for me to say more than I have, in relation to those matters of administration, about which there is no special excitement.

☞ Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States, that by the accession of a Republican Administration, their property, and their peace, and personal security, are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed, and been open to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from one of those speeches when I declare that "I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so." Those who nominated and elected me did so with full knowledge that I had made this, and many similar declarations, and had never recanted them. And more than this, they placed in the platform, for my acceptance, and as a law to themselves, and to me, the clear and emphatic resolution which I now read:

"Resolved, That the maintenance inviolate of the rights of the States, and especially the right of each State to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to that balance of power on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depend; and we denounce the lawless invasion by armed force of the soil of any State or Territory, no matter under what pretext, as among the gravest of crimes."

I now reiterate these sentiments: and in doing so, I only press upon the public attention the most conclusive evidence of which the case is susceptible, that the property, peace and security of no section are to be in anywise endangered by the now incoming Administration. I add too, that all the protection which, consistently with the Constitution and the laws, can be given, will be cheerfully given to all the States—as cheerfully to one section as to another.

☞ There is much controversy about the delivering up of fugitives from service or labor. The clause I now read is as plainly written in the Constitution as any other of its provisions:

“No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due.”

It is scarcely questioned that this provision was intended by those who made it, for the reclaiming of what we call fugitive slaves; and the intention of the law-giver is the law. All members of Congress swear their support to the whole Constitution—to this provision as much as to any other. To the proposition, then, that slaves whose cases come within the terms of this clause, “shall be delivered up,” their oaths are unanimous. Now, if they would make the effort in good temper, could they not, with nearly equal unanimity, frame and pass a law, by means of which to keep good that unanimous oath?

There is some difference of opinion whether this clause should be enforced by national or by state authority; but surely that difference is not a very material one. If the slave is to be surrendered, it can be of but little consequence to him, or to others, by which authority it is done. And should any one, in any case, be content that his oath shall go unkept, on a merely unsubstantial controversy as to *how* it shall be kept?

Again, in any law upon this subject, ought not all the safeguards of liberty known in civilized and humane jurisprudence to be introduced, so that a free man be not, in any case, surrendered as a slave?

☞ I take the official oath to-day, with no mental reservations,

and with no purpose to construe the Constitution or laws, by any hypercritical rules. And while I do not think proper now to specify particular acts of Congress as proper to be enforced, I do suggest that it will be much safer for all, both in official and private stations, to conform to, and abide by, all those acts which stand unrepealed, than to violate any of them, trusting to find impunity in having them held to be unconstitutional.

✎ It is now seventy-two years since the first inauguration of a President under our national Constitution. During that period fifteen different and greatly distinguished citizens, have, in succession, administered the executive branch of the government. They have conducted it through many perils; and, on the whole, with great success. Yet, with all this scope for precedent, I now enter upon the same task for the brief constitutional term of four years, under great and peculiar difficulty. A disruption of the Federal Union is menaced, and, so far as can be on paper, is already effected. The particulars of what has been done are so familiar and so fresh, that I need not to waste any time in recounting them.

I hold, that in contemplation of universal law, and of the Constitution, the Union of these States is perpetual. Perpetuity is implied, if not expressed, in the fundamental law of all national governments. It is safe to assert that no government proper, ever had a provision in its organic law for its own termination. Continue to execute all the express provisions of our national Constitution, and the Union will endure forever—it being impossible to destroy it, except by some action not provided for in the instrument itself.

Again, if the United States be not a government proper, but an association of States in the nature of contract merely, can it, as a contract, be peaceably unmade, by less than all the parties who made it? One party to a contract may violate it—break it, so to speak; but does it not require all to lawfully rescind it?

Descending from these general principles, we find the proposition that, in legal contemplation, the Union is perpetual, confirmed by the history of the Union itself. The Union is much older than the Constitution. It was formed in fact, by the Articles of Association in 1774. It was matured and continued by the Declaration of Independence in 1776. It was further matured and ex-

pressly declared and pledged, to be perpetual, by the Articles of Confederation in 1778. And finally, in 1787, one of the declared objects for ordaining and establishing the Constitution, was “*to form a more perfect union.*”


But if destruction of the Union, by one, or by a part only, of the States, be lawfully possible, the Union is *less* perfect than before, which contradicts the Constitution, and therefore is absurd.

It follows from these views that no State, upon its own mere motion, can lawfully get out of the Union,—that *resolves* and *ordinances* to that effect are legally nothing; and that acts of violence, within any State or States, against the authority of the United States, are insurrectionary or treasonable, according to circumstances.

I therefore consider that the Union is unbroken; and, to the extent of my ability, I shall take care that the laws of the Union be faithfully executed in all the States. Doing this I deem to be only a simple duty on my part; and I shall perform it, so far as practicable, unless my rightful masters, the American people, shall withhold the requisite means, or, in some tangible way, direct the contrary. I trust this will not be regarded as a menace, but only as the declared purpose of the Union that it *will* have its own, and *defend* itself.

In doing this there needs to be no bloodshed or violence; and there shall be none, unless it be forced upon the national authority. All the power at my disposal will be used to reclaim the public property and places which have fallen; to hold, occupy and possess these, and all other property and places belonging to the government, and to collect the duties or imposts; but beyond what may be necessary for these objects, there will be no invasion of any State. Where hostility to the United States, in any interior locality, shall be so great and so universal, as to prevent competent resident citizens from holding the Federal offices, there will be no attempt to force obnoxious strangers among the people for that object. While the strict legal right may exist in the government to enforce the exercise of these offices, the attempt to do so would be so irritating, and so nearly impracticable with all, that I deem it better to forego, for the time, the uses of such offices.

The mails, unless refused, will continue to be furnished in all parts of the Union. So far as possible, the people everywhere shall have that sense of perfect security which is most favorable to calm thought and reflection. This course will be pursued until current experience shall show a modification or change to be proper.

 That there are persons who seek to destroy the Union at all events, and are glad of any pretext to do it, I will neither affirm or deny; but if there be such, I need address no word to them. To those, however, who really love the Union, may I not speak?

Before entering upon so grave a matter as the destruction of our national Union, would it not be wise to ascertain precisely why we do it? Will you hazard so desperate a step, while there is any possibility that any portion of the ills you fly from have no real existence? Will you, while the certain ills you fly to, are greater than all the real ones you fly from? Will you risk the commission of so fearful a mistake?

All profess to be content in the Union, if all constitutional rights can be maintained. Is it true, then, that any right, plainly written in the Constitution, has been denied? I think not. Happily the human mind is so constructed, that no party can reach to the audacity of doing this. Think, if you can, of a single instance in which a plainly written provision of the Constitution has ever been denied. If, by the mere force of numbers, a majority should deprive a minority of any clearly written constitutional right, it might, in a moral point of view, justify revolution—certainly would, if such right were a vital one;—but such is not our case. All the vital rights of minorities, and of individuals, are so plainly assured to them, by affirmations and negations in the Constitution, that controversies never arise concerning them. But no organic law can ever be framed with a provision specifically applicable to every question which may occur in practical administration. No foresight can anticipate, nor any document of reasonable length contain express provisions for all possible questions. Shall fugitives from labor be surrendered by national or by State authority? The Constitution does not expressly say. *May* Congress prohibit slavery in the territories? The Constitution does not expressly say. *Must* Congress protect slavery in the territories? The Constitution does not expressly say.

From questions of this class spring all our constitutional controversies, and we divide upon them into majorities and minorities. If the minority will not submit, the majority must, or the government must cease. There is no other alternative; for continuing the government, is submission on one side or the other. If a minority, in such case, will secede rather than submit, they make a precedent which, in turn, will divide and ruin them; for a minority of their own number will secede from them whenever a majority refuses to be controlled by such minority. For instance, why may not South Carolina, a year or two hence, arbitrarily, secede from a new Southern Confederacy, just as she now claims to secede from the present Union? Her people, and, indeed, all secession people, are now being educated to the precise temper of doing this. Is there such perfect identity of interests among the States to compose a Southern Union, as to produce harmony only, and prevent renewed secession?

Plainly, the central idea of secession, is the essence of anarchy. A constitutional majority is the only true sovereign of a free people. Whoever rejects it, does, of necessity, fly to anarchy or to despotism. Unanimity is impossible; the rule of a minority, as a permanent arrangement, is wholly inadmissible; so that, rejecting the majority principle, anarchy or despotism in some form is all that is left.

I do not forget the position assumed by some, that constitutional questions are to be decided by the Supreme Court; nor do I deny that such decisions must be binding in any case, upon the parties to a suit, as to the object of the suit. And while it is obviously possible that such decision may be erroneous in any given case, still the evil effect following it, being limited to that particular case, with the chance that it may be over-ruled, and never become a precedent for other cases, can better be borne than could the greater evils of a different rule. But if the policy of the government, upon vital questions affecting the whole people, is to be irrevocably fixed by decisions of the Supreme Court, it is plain that the people will have ceased to be their own rulers, having turned their government over to the despotism of the few life officers composing the Court. Nor is there, in this view any assault upon the Court or the judges. It is a duty from which they may not shrink, to decide cases properly brought before them;

and it is no fault of theirs if others seek to turn their decisions to political purposes.

☛ The Republican party, as I understand, have avowed the purpose to prevent, if they can, the extension of slavery, under the national auspices; and upon this arises the only dispute between the sections.

One section believes slavery is *right*, and ought to be extended, while the other believes it is *wrong*, and ought not to be extended. This is the only substantial dispute. The fugitive slave clause of the Constitution, and the law for the suppression of the foreign slave trade, are each as well enforced, as any law can ever be in a community where the moral sense of the people is against the law itself. The great body of the people abide by the dry legal obligation in both cases, and a few break over in each. This, I think, cannot be perfectly cured; and it would be worse in both cases *after* the separation of the sections, than before. The foreign slave trade, now imperfectly suppressed, would be revived without restriction, in one section; while fugitive slaves, now only partially surrendered, would not be surrendered at all, by the other.

Physically speaking, we cannot separate. We cannot remove our respective sections from each other, nor build an impassable wall between them. A husband and wife may be divorced, and go out of the presence, and beyond the reach of each other; but the different parts of our country cannot do this. They cannot but remain face to face; and intercourse, either amicable or hostile, must continue between them. Is it possible to make that intercourse more advantageous or satisfactory, *after* separation than *before*? Can aliens make treaties easier than friends can make laws? Can treaties be more faithfully enforced between aliens than laws can among friends? Suppose you go to war, you cannot fight always; and when, after much loss on both sides, and no gain on either, you cease fighting, the identical old questions, as to terms of intercourse, are again upon you.

This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their *constitutional* right of amending it, or their *revolutionary* right to dismember or overthrow it. As

I am not much impressed with the belief that the present Constitution can be improved, I make no recommendations of amendments. I am, rather, for the old ship, and the chart of the old pilots. If, however, the people desire a new, or an altered vessel, the matter is exclusively their own, and they can move in the premises, as well without as with an executive recommendation. I shall place no obstacle in the way of what may appear to be their wishes.

The Chief Magistrate derives all his authority from the people, and they have conferred none upon him to fix terms for the separation of the States. The people themselves can do this if they choose; but the executive, as such, has nothing to do with it. His duty is to administer the present government, as it came to his hands, and to transmit it, unimpaired by him, to his successor.

Why should there not be a patient confidence in the ultimate justice of the people? Is there any better or equal hope, in the world? In our present differences, is either party without faith in the right? If the Almighty Ruler of nations, with his eternal truth and justice, be on our side, or on yours, that truth and that justice will surely prevail, by the judgment of this great tribunal, the American people.

By the frame of the government under which we live, this same people have wisely given their public servants but little power for mischief, and have, with equal wisdom, provided for the return of that little to their own hands at very short intervals.

While the people remain patient, and true to themselves, no man, even in the presidential chair, by any extreme of wickedness or folly, can very seriously injure the government in the short space of four years.

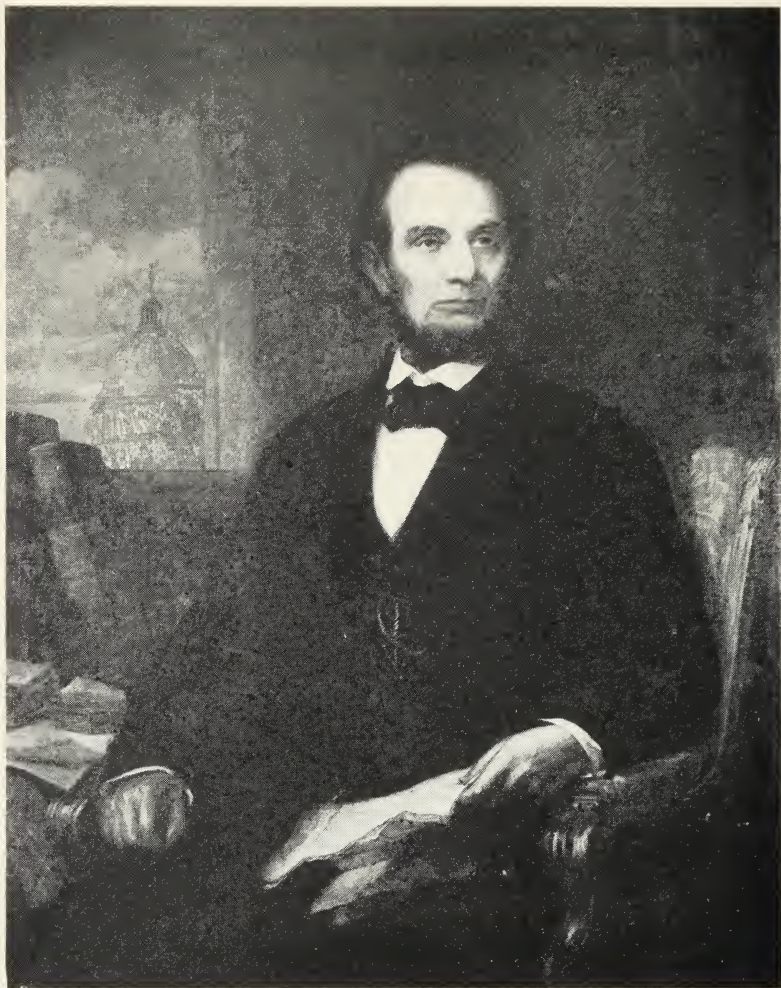
☛ My countrymen, one and all, take *time* and think *well*, upon this whole subject. Nothing valuable can be lost by taking time. Nothing worth preserving is either breaking or burning. If there be an object to *hurry* any of you, in hot haste, to a step which you would never take *deliberately*, that object will be frustrated by taking time; but no good object can be frustrated by it. Such of you as are now dissatisfied, still have the old Constitution unimpaired, and, on the sensitive point, the laws of your own framing under it; while the new administration will have no immediate

power, if it would, to change either. If it were admitted that you who are dissatisfied, hold the right side in the dispute, there still is no single good reason for precipitate action. Intelligence, patriotism, Christianity, and a firm reliance on Him, who has never yet forsaken this favored land, are still competent to adjust, in the best way, all our present difficulty.

In *your* hands, my dissatisfied fellow countrymen, and not in *mine*, is the momentous issue of civil war. The government will not assail *you*, unless you *first* assail *it*. You can have no conflict, without being yourselves the aggressors. *You* have no oath registered in Heaven to destroy the government, while *I* shall have the most solemn one to "preserve, protect and defend" it. *You* can forbear the *assault* upon it; *I* can *not* shrink from the *defense* of it. With *you*, and not with *me*, is the solemn question of "Shall it be peace, or a sword?"

RESPONSE TO A SERENADE, MARCH 4, 1861

FELLOW CITIZENS: I thank you for this visit. I thank you that you call upon me, not in any sectional spirit, but that you come, without distinction of party, to pay your respects to the President of the United States. I am informed that you are mostly citizens of New York. (Cries of "all," "all.") You all appear to be very happy. May I hope that the public expression which I have this day given to my sentiments, may have contributed in some degree to your happiness. (Emphatic exclamations of assent.) As far as I am concerned, the loyal citizens of every State, and of every section, shall have no cause to feel any other sentiment. (Cries of "good," "good.") As towards the disaffected portions of our fellow-citizens, I will say, as every good man throughout the country must feel, that there will be more rejoicing over one sheep that is lost, and is found, than over the ninety and nine which have not gone astray. (Great cheering.) And now, my friends, as I have risen from the dinner-table to see you, you will excuse me for the brevity of my remarks, and permit me again to thank you heartily and cordially for the pleasant visit, as I re-join those who await my return.



Portrait by Daniel Huntington
(In the Union League Club, New York City)

Executive Mansion, March 7, 1861

WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

William Johnson, a colored boy, and bearer of this, has been with me about twelve months; and has been, so far, as I believe, honest, faithful, sober, industrious, and handy as a servant.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, March 15, 1861.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,

Assuming it to be possible to now provision Fort Sumter, under all the circumstances, is it wise to attempt it? Please give me your opinion, in writing, on this question.

Executive Mansion, March 1861. (About March 15)

TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

Sir: You will favor me by issuing an order detailing Lieut. E. E. Ellsworth of the 1st Dragoons, for special duty as adjutant and inspector general of militia affairs, for the United States, and, in so far as existing laws will admit, charge him with the transaction, under your direction, of all business pertaining to the militia, to be conducted as a separate bureau, of which Lieut. Ellsworth will be the chief; with instructions to take measures for promoting a uniform system of organization, drill, equipment, etc., of the U. S. militia, and to prepare a system of instruction for the militia, to be distributed to the several states. You will please assign him suitable office room, furniture, etc., and provide him with a clerk and messenger, and furnish him with such facilities in the way of printing, stationery, access to records, etc., as he may desire for the successful prosecution of his duties; and also provide, if you please, in such manner as will best answer the purpose, for a monthly payment to Lieut. Ellsworth, for this extra duty, sufficient to make his pay and emoluments equal that of a major of cavalry.

In keeping an evening engagement with the President at this time, Colonel Ellsworth was accompanied to the White House by Major Hunter of the Paymaster's Department and Captain Pope of the Topographical Engineers. Colonel Ellsworth outlined some

of the obstacles encountered in trying to get his new militia bureau established, and when he had concluded Mr. Lincoln said:

"Well, gentlemen, with all proper regard for the rights of (Secretary) Mr. Cameron or anybody else, I want Colonel Ellsworth to have a good place. . . . I am pressed to death for time and don't pretend to know anything of military matters; fix the thing up so that I shan't be treading on anybody's toes, or carrying anybody across lots, and then come to me and I will finish it."

The morning after the murder of Ellsworth, a New York *Herald* correspondent in company with Senator Wilson of Massachusetts, called at the White House. They found Lincoln so overwhelmed by the death of Ellsworth that at first he could not talk. After composing himself somewhat Lincoln said:

"I will make no apology, gentlemen, for my weakness, but I knew poor Ellsworth well and held him in great regard. Just as you entered the room Captain Fox left me, after giving me the painful details of his unfortunate death. The event was so unexpected, and the recital so touching, that it quite unmanned me. Poor fellow, it was doubtless an act of rashness, but it only shows the heroic spirit that animates our soldiers, from high to low, in this righteous cause of ours. Yet who can restrain their grief to see them fall in such a way as this, not by the fortunes of war, but by the hand of an assassin. There is one fact that has reached me which is a great consolation to my heart, and quite a relief after this melancholy affair. I learn from several persons that when the Stars and Stripes were raised again in Alexandria, many of the people of the town actually wept with joy, and manifested the liveliest gratification at seeing this familiar and loved emblem once more floating above them. This is another proof that all the South is not secessionist; and it is my earnest hope that as we advance we shall find as many friends as foes."

Executive Mansion, March 16 1861

HON. GIDEON WELLES

Dear Sir

The bearer (William) is a servant who has been with me for some time & in whom I have confidence as to his integrity and

faithfulness. He wishes to enter your service. The difference of color between him & the other servants is the cause of our separation (sic). If you can give him employment you will confer a favour on

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Lincoln's Letter to Señor Molina, March 17, 1861.

I am happy to receive the letters you present, and to recognize you, sir, as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Nicaragua, near the U. S. In conferring a higher rank upon you, as a token of regard on the part of the Government and people of Nicaragua toward this country, they have done our Government and people an honor, for which we are duly grateful; while they have also manifested an increased confidence in you, which we can attest is deserved, and thereby have done you a distinguished honor, upon which we congratulate you. On behalf of the United States I fully reciprocate toward your government and people the kind wishes and friendly purposes you so generously express toward ours. Please communicate to his Excellency, the President of Nicaragua, my high esteem and consideration, and my earnest wish for his health, happiness and long life. Be assured, sir, I do not allow myself to doubt that your public duties and social intercourse here will be so conducted as to be entirely acceptable to the government and people of the United States.

A. LINCOLN.

Spring 1861

On this day Mrs. —— called upon me. She is the wife of Major —— of the regular army. She wants her husband made a brigadier-general. She is a saucy little woman, and I think she will torment me till I have to do it.—

A. L.

MEMORANDUM

Executive Mansion, Washington, March 27, 1861.

To-day Mr. Blake of Indianapolis asks:

1. Captain Aiken be promoted.
2. Colonel William H. Blake of the 9th be promoted.

3. Colonel John W. Blake of the 40th be promoted.

4. That himself—James Blake—have something.

(Endorsed three days later:)

Submitted to the Secretary of War

A. LINCOLN.

March 30, 1863.

To Hon. Gideon Welles.

Executive Mansion, March 29, 1861.

HONORABLE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

Sir: I desire that an expedition, to move by Sea, be got ready to sail as early as the 6th of April next, the whole according to Memorandum attached; and that you co-operate with the Secretary of War for that object

Your Obedient Servant

A. LINCOLN.

The "memorandum" attached reads thus:

NAVY DEP'T

Stm'rs Pocahontas at Norfolk, Pawnee at Washington, and Revenue Cutter Harriet Lane at N. York, to be ready for sea with one months stores. Three hundred Sea men to be ready for leaving the receiving ship at N. York

WAR DEP'T

Two hundred men at N. York, ready to leave garrison. One years stores to be put in a portable form.

Abraham Lincoln,

President of the United States of America.

To Her Majesty Dona Isabel II,

By the Grace of God and the Constitution
of the Spanish Monarchy, Queen of Spain,
&c. &c.,

GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND:

I have made choice of Carl Schurz, one of our distinguished citizens, to reside near Your Majesty in the quality of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America. He is well informed of the relative interests of the two

countries, and of our sincere desire to cultivate and strengthen the friendship and good correspondence between us; and from a knowledge of his fidelity, probity and good conduct, I have entire confidence that he will render himself acceptable to Your Majesty by his constant endeavors to preserve and advance the interest and happiness of both nations. I therefore request Your Majesty to receive him favorably, and to give full credence to whatever he shall say on the part of the United States; and most of all when he shall assure Your Majesty of their friendship and wishes for your prosperity. And I pray God to have Your Majesty in His safe and holy keeping.

Written at the City of Washington this 29th day of March, Anno Domini 1861.

Your Good Friend,

By the President:

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

Washington, March 30, 1861

HON. J. K. DUBOIS:

My dear Sir

I was nearly as sorry as you can be at not being able to give Mr. Luce the appointment you desired for him. Of course I *could* have done it; but it would have been against the united, earnest, and I add, angry protest of the republican delegation of Minnesota, in which state the office is located. So far as I understand, it is unprecedented, (to) send an officer into a *state* against the wishes of the members of congress of that State, and of the same party.

Your friend as ever

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, 1st April, 1861.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

Dear Sir,

You will issue instructions to Captain Pendergrast comd'g the home squadron to remain in observation at Vera Cruz, important complications in our foreign relations rendering the presence of an officer of rank there of great importance.

Capt. Stringham will be directed to proceed to Pensacola with all possible despatch & assume Command of that portion of the home squadron stationed off Pensacola. He will have confidential instructions to cooperate in every way with the Commander of the land forces of the United States in that neighborhood. The instructions to the Army Officers which are strictly confidential, will be communicated to Capt. Stringham after he arrives at Pensacola.

Capt. Sam Barron will relieve Capt. Stringham of charge of the Bureau of detail.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

P.S. As it is very necessary at this time to have a perfect knowledge of the personnel of the Navy and to be able to detail such officers for Special purposes as the exigencies of the service may require. I request that you will instruct Captain Barron to proceed and Organize the Bureau of detail in the manner best adapted to meet the wants of the Navy, taking cognizance of the discipline of the navy generally, detailing all Officers for duty, taking charge of the recruiting of Seamen, Supervising charges made against Officers, and all relating to duties which must be best understood by a Sea Officer. You will please afford Captain Barron every facility for accomplishing this duty, transferring to his Department the Clerical force heretofore used for the purposes specified it is to be understood that this officer will act by authority of Secretary of the Navy, who will exercise such Supervision as he may deem necessary.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

To this Secretary Welles has added in pencil:

Called on the President for explanation, who says he really knew not what he was signing. Told how the scheme to thrust Barron upon me, could not be thought of. I am not prepared to give him my confidence. The President said he had no doubt I was right. He knew not Barron. These papers with many others were hastily prepared and thrust upon him. "Give it no more attention than you think proper," said he. G. W.

Confidential.

Executive Mansion, 1st April, 1861.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,

"You will select some other officer in whom implicit confidence may be placed, to relieve Capt. Stringham, with whom you can advise as to the mode and manner best adapted to meet the wants of the Navy, the officer, so selected will take charge of those duties that you had developed on Capt. Stringham."

Washington, April 1st 1861

CAPTAIN ANDREW H. FOOTE

Sir: Lieutenant David D. Porter is directed by me to assume command of the United States frigate Powhatan, and goes on important duty, which it is desirable he should accomplish without delay, and you will, therefore, give him every aid in fitting out the vessel. The duty is to be performed with the greatest secrecy.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

(Order to Lieut. David D. Porter to proceed to Ft. Sumter.)

Washington, April 1st 1861

CAPTAIN SAMUEL MERCER

Sir: You will, on receipt of this order turn over the command of your vessel to Lieutenant David D. Porter, who is to proceed in her on an important service.

In depriving you of your command of your vessel I do not desire in the least to reflect upon your zeal or patriotism; on the contrary, I have the fullest confidence in your ability to perform the duty in question. There are reasons, however, which make it necessary for the officer who goes in command of the ship to be well informed personally of my views and wishes, and time will not admit of the delay necessary to communicate with you personally.

Having to give up your command, I can assure you that you may ask of me the command of any other vessel, which will be freely given to you.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Washington, Executive Mansion, 1st Apl. 1861.

All officers of the army and navy to whom this order may be exhibited, will aid by every means in their power, the expedition under the command of Colonel Harvey Brown, supplying him with men and material, and cooperating with him as he may desire.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Extract from Col. Brown's instructions.

The naval officers of the Gulf will be instructed to cooperate with you in every way in order to insure the safety of Fort Pickens, Fort Jefferson and Fort Taylor.

Approved

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Mr. Kellogg does me great injustices to write in this strain—He has had more favors than any other Illinois member, not excepting, I think, Judge Trumbull. Is it really in his heart to add to my perplexities now?

A. LINCOLN.

April 5, 1861.

Washington, April 15, 1861

COL. E. E. ELLSWORTH

My dear Sir:

Ever since the beginning of our acquaintance, I have valued you highly as a person (sic) friend, and at the same time (without much capacity of judging) have had a very high estimate of your military latent—Accordingly I have been, and still am anxious for you to have the best position in the military which can be given you, consistently with justice and proper courtesy towards the older officers of the Army—I can not incur the risk of doing them injustice, or a discourtesy; but I do say they would personally oblige me, if they could, and would place you in some position, or in some service, satisfactory to yourself—

Your Obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, April 18, 1861

HON. W. H. SEWARD,

My dear Sir

You astonish me by saying Mr. Weed understands there is some alienation, or enmity of feeling, on my part towards him— Nothing like it— I shall be glad to see him any time, & have wondered at not have (sic) seen him already.

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, April 19, 1861.

HON. SEC. OF NAVY.

My dear Sir

I find on page 99 of the Navy Register that there is an officer called "Naval Constructor." Whom it is said, you are to appoint—

The bearer of this, Israel S. Smith, a man now residing at Philadelphia, but whom I knew in boyhood, and whom I would like to oblige, is anxious and interested to have John W. Griffiths, appointed to that office. Please examine, and appoint him, if it can properly be done.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, April 23, 1861. To Hon. Sec. of Navy. With envelope, marked "From the President."

"I think I saw three vessels go up to the Navy Yard just now. Will you please send down and learn what they are?"

Executive Mansion, April 26, 1861.

HON. SEC. OF WAR:

I learn that the Gov. of Illinois, who is acquainted, with Capt. John Pope, now at Cincinnati, desires to have Capt. Pope sent to Illinois to assist in the organization & equipment of the military forces of the State.

Are his present duties such that he could not properly be

ordered to report himself to Gov. Yates? If not, please direct him to report to Gov. Yates for duty—

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

(over)

P. S.

Capt. Todd leaves for the West to-morrow afternoon; and, being an experienced Military man, would bear and deliver any despatches confided to him.

A. L.

By Telegraph from Washington, April 27, 1861

GOV. ANDREW JOHNSON

Your dispatch of yesterday just rec'd as also in due course was your former one the former one was sent to Genl. Halleck & we have his answer by which I have no doubt he (Genl. Halleck) is in communication with you before this Genl Halleck understands better than we can here & he must be allowed to control in that quarter if you are not in communication with Halleck telegraph him at once freely & frankly.

A. LINCOLN.

President Lincoln's Reply to Frontier Guards, April 28, 1861.

I have desired as sincerely as any man—I sometimes think more than any other man—that our present difficulties might be settled without the shedding of blood. I will not say that all hope is yet gone. But if the alternative is presented, whether the Union is to be broken in fragments, and the liberties of the people lost, or blood be shed, you will probably make the choice, with which I shall not be dissatisfied.

(Reply to a Baltimore committee, April 28, 1861, requesting that soldiers be not allowed to march through Maryland.)

You, gentlemen, come here to me and ask for peace on any terms, and yet have no word of condemnation for those who are making war on us. You express great horror of bloodshed, and yet would not lay a straw in the way of those who are organizing

in Virginia and elsewhere to capture this city. The rebels attack Fort Sumter, and your citizens attack troops sent to the defense of the Government, and the lives and property in Washington, and yet you would have me break my oath and surrender the Government without a blow. There is no Washington in that—no Jackson in that—no manhood nor honor in that. I have no desire to invade the South; but I must have troops to defend this Capital. Geographically it lies surrounded by the soil of Maryland; and mathematically the necessity exists that they should come over her territory. Our men are not moles, and can't dig under the earth; they are not birds, and can't fly through the air. There is no way but to march across, and that they must do. But in doing this there is no need of collision. Keep your rowdies in Baltimore, and there will be no bloodshed. Go home and tell your people that if they will not attack us, we will not attack them; but if they do attack us, we will return it, and that severely.

Executive Mansion, April 29, 1861

HON. SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,

Sir:

You will please to have as strong a War Steamer as you can conveniently put on that duty, to cruise upon the Potomac, and to look in upon, and, if practicable, examine the Bluff and vicinity, at what is called the White House, once or twice per day; and, in case of any attempt to erect a battery there, to drive away the party attempting it, if practicable; and, in every event to report daily to your Department, and to me—

Your Obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

Private note. The above order I make at the suggestion of General Scott, though the execution of it, I believe is substantially what you are already doing.

A. L.

Hon. Secretary of the Navy

Executive Mansion, April 30th, 1861.

"Send commissions as follow. Register of Land Office at Santa Fe, N. M., Joel Houghton, in place of O. H. Perry Richardson, removed.

Indian Agent at Santa Fe, John Ward, in place of Silas Kendrick, removed.

Indian Agent, Ramon Luna, in place of John L. Russell, removed.

If you & Mr. Dole approve the above, let the Commissions be sent."

Washington, May 6, 1861.

HON. F. S. COCKRAN:

I am quite sure you are not aware how much I am disoblged by the refusal to give Mr. F. S. Evans a place in the Custom House. I had no thought that the men to whom I had given the higher offices would be so ready to disoblge me. I still wish you would give Mr. Evans the place of Deputy Naval Officer.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Department, May 6, 1861.

HON. SEC. OF TREASURY

Dear Sir

The Secretary of State this moment introduces to me Mr. James Gordon Bennett, Jr. who tenders to the U. S. the service, a fine Yacht of 160 tons burthen— If you allow him an interview, which I ask for him, he will talk with you about putting some other vessels of the same class, into the service— We send this subject to you because we believe these vessels may be made most available in the Revenue service—

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Abraham Lincoln,

President of the United States of America.

To the Regent Captains of the Republic of San Marino.

GREAT AND GOOD FRIENDS:

I have received and read with great sensibility the letter which, as Regent Captains of the Republic of San Marino you ad-

dressed to me on the 29th of March, last. I thank the Council of San Marino for the honor of citizenship it has conferred upon me.

Although your dominion is small, your State is, nevertheless, one of the most honored in all history. It has, by its experience, demonstrated the truth, so full of encouragement to the friends of Humanity, that Government founded on Republican principles, is capable (sic) of being so administered as to be secure and enduring.

You have kindly adverted to the trial through which this Republic is now passing. It is one of deep import. It involves the question whether a Representative republic, extended and aggrandised so much as to be safe against foreign enemies, can save itself from the dangers of domestic faction. I have faith in a good result.

Wishing that your interesting State may endure and flourish forever, and that you may live long and enjoy the confidence and secure the gratitude of your fellow citizens, I pray God to have you in His holy keeping.

Your Good Friend,

Washington, May 7, 1861.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

Executive Mansion, May 7, 1861.

HON. GIDEON WELLES.

Dear Sir

Lieut. McLaughlin, of the Navy calls upon me saying he tendered you his resignation, which has not yet been accepted, and which he now wishes to withdraw, and that you refer him to me. I cannot take the lead in the case. You know the circumstances, which I do not, and if you think fit to allow him to withdraw the resignation, I make no objection, but I can not take the lead.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, May 8, 1861.

HON. GIDEON WELLES.

My dear Sir

I understand that there is some opposition to the appointment of Capt. G. V. Fox to the clerkship we talked of. My wish, and advice is, that you do not allow any ordinary obstacle prevent his appointment. He is a live man, whose services we cannot well dispense with.

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, May 11, 1861.

HON. GIDEON WELLES.

My dear Sir

Some time ago, at the request of Commander E. B. Boutwell, I asked you to look into the case of his suspension, and ascertain whether he might not, without inconsistency, be relieved from the remainder of his suspension. I am now informed that his case is not yet acted upon. I make no complaint of this, knowing you are overwhelmed with business; but I will be obliged if you will attend to it as soon as possible.

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, D. C., May 16, 1861

HON. CARL SCHURZ.

My dear Sir:

I have delayed so long to either Telegraph or write you, hoping to get the matter of which we spoke, into a satisfactory shape; but at last I have not succeeded. On Monday I was about to Telegraph you to proceed, but was arrested in it on the question of rank—that it would put you in command at Fortress Monroe—

Yesterday the New-York Committee were here; and their mission ended in their getting an order to move forward, from N. Y. City fourteen Regiments said to be there now—five to this city, and nine to Fortress Monroe— It did not occur to me till after I parted with the Committee, that probably your four German Regiments are included in this same fourteen. If so, they will

either come here, or go to Fortress Monroe at once— I still hope you may be made Brig. Gen. of them; but I can not make it move smoothly just yet—

Write, or Telegraph me when you receive this—

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, May 20, 1861

HON. SEC. OF WAR.

My dear Sir:

Col. Julian Allen, a Polish gentleman, naturalized, proposed raising a Regiment of our citizens of his nationality, to serve in our Army— He proposes getting them from the different States, without particular order, as can be most conveniently done, and organizing them here, so that they, as a Regiment, will hail from no particular State— Mr. Allen is highly recommended, as you will see by his testimonials—

If he so raises and tenders a Regiment, I am in favor of accepting it, unless there be some objection which does not occur to me.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, May 24, 1861

LIEUTENANT GENERAL SCOTT

My dear Sir

What think you of the propriety of yourself, or the now immediate commander—Genl. Mansfield, as I understand—taking the occasion of occupying Alexandria & Arlington Heights, to make a proclamation to the citizens of those places, and vicinity, assuring them that they are not to be despoiled, but can have your protection, if they will accept it, and inviting such as may have left their homes, and business, to return? . . .

Your Obedient Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

The President on June 4, 1861, made the following reply on receiving the Minister from Granada:

Mr. Hurtado: I receive with pleasure a Minister Plenipotentiary from the Republic of the Granadian Confederacy. Your country contains one of the principal highways of commerce and intercourse between the Atlantic and the Pacific States of this Union. The people of the two countries cannot, therefore, be strangers to each other; they must be friends, and in some measure allies. It shall be no fault of mine if they ever cease to be such.

The republican system of government, which has been adopted so generally on this continent, has proved its adaptation to what is the first purpose of government every where—the maintenance of national independence. It is my confident hope and belief that this system will be found, after sufficient trials, to be better adapted every where than any other to other great interests of human society—namely, the preservation of peace, order, and national prosperity. I sincerely hope that this may be the happy result of the experiment of the system in your country.

I bid you welcome, sir, to the society of the capital.

Executive Mansion, June 5. 1861

HON. SEC. OF WAR

My dear Sir

Herewith I send a draft for an order giving Gen. McClelland discretion to receive a particular company. There is no cheat about it. Mr. Sturges, who brings this to you is a man of large means, and of the highest character. Inclosed also is Gen. Scott's note, substantially assenting to the order.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, June 10, 1861

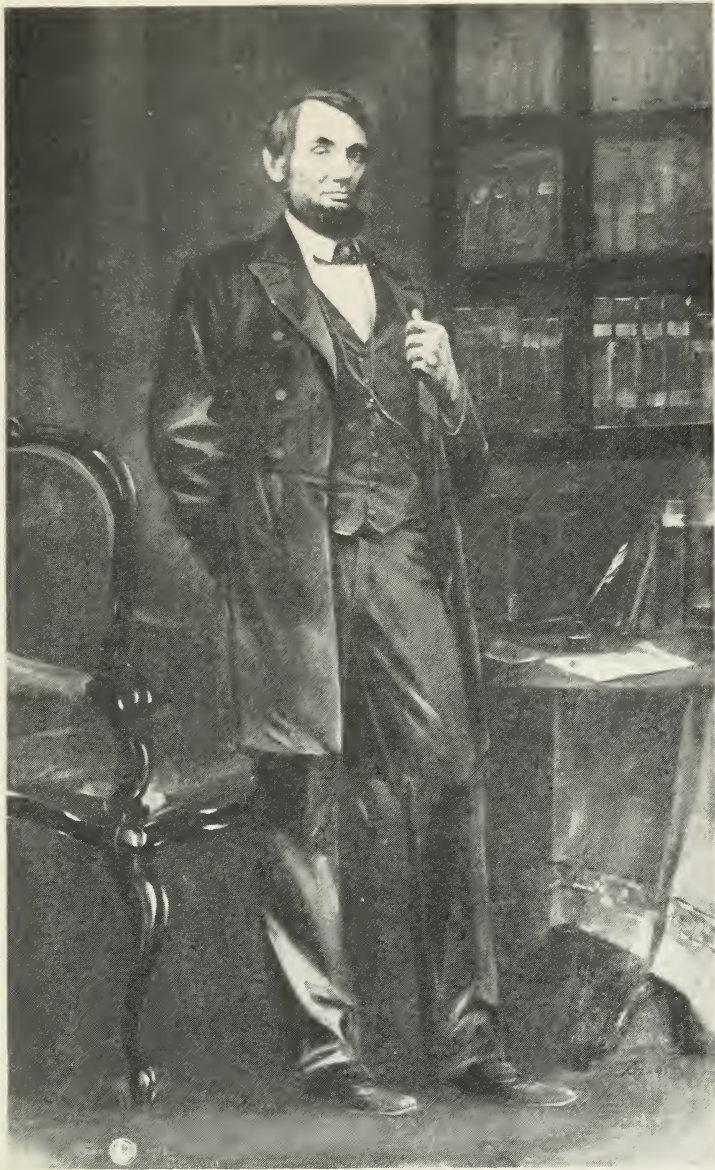
CAPT. DAHLGREN,

My dear Sir

You have seen Mr. Blunt's new gun— What think you of it? Would the Government do well to purchase some of them? Should they be of the size of the one exhibited? or of different sizes?

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.



Photograph in the Possession of Mrs. M. Landesberg,
New York

(Envelope)

Capt. Dahlgren
Navy-Yard.

From the President
Will Capt. Dahlgren
please see Mr. Blunt?

Washington, June 11, 1861.

The Government has already accepted ten regiments from the State of Indiana. I think at least six more ought to be received from that State, two to be those of Col. James W. McMillan and Col. William L. Brown, and the other four to be designated by the Governor of the State of Indiana, and to be received into the volunteer service of the United States according to the "plan of organization" in the General Orders of the War Department, No. 15. When they report to Major-General McClellan in condition to pass muster according to that order, and with the approval of the Secretary of War, to be indorsed hereon, and a copy left in his Department, I direct that the whole six, or any smaller number of said regiments, be received.

A. LINCOLN.

On June 5, 1861, Schurz wrote Major A. T. McReynolds, a veteran of the Mexican War, that he was forced to dissolve his connection with his regiment, and asked him to take his place. On this letter Lincoln wrote the following endorsement:

HON. SEC. OF WAR

Please say to Col. A. T. McReynolds, that when he will present the Cavalry Regiment according to the within authority they will be received under him as they would have been under Carl Schurz.

A. LINCOLN.

June 13, 1861

Executive Mansion, June 17. 1861

HON. SEC. OF WAR

My dear Sir

After examining the list presented for Officers of the Addition to the Regular Army, I deem it a little unfortunate, that they

are drawn from the different States in such unequal proportions, a single State furnishing nearly one fourth of the whole; still I think we have not time now to break up and reconstruct the card. The few modifications I desire to make are as follows:

1st. Let Col. Robert Anderson be appointed a Brigadier General; and Col. William H. Emory take his place on the card, as Colonel of the 15th Regiment of Infantry.

2nd. I wish Oliver L. Shepherd, now Captain in the 3rd Infantry, and Major by brevet, to be a Lieutenant Colonel, you to find the place for him.

3rd. I wish Abner Doubleday, now a Captain in the 1st Artillery, to be a Major in the similar corps if possible, you to find a place for him.

4th. I wish Adam J. Slemmer, now a first Lieutenant in same Regiment last mentioned, to be a Major in a similar corps, if possible, you to find a place for him.

5th. If he desires it, I would also like for Capt. Theodore Talbot, who escorted my messenger to Gov. Pickens last April, to be a Major.

6th. Because of his relationship to the late Senator Douglas, I wish James Madison Cutts, Jr., to be a Captain in some part of this new corps.

7th. At the very urgent solicitation of Hon. Mr. Van Wyck, I wish Horatio B. Reed to be a Second Lieutenant in this new corps.

8th. I also wish Francis E. Brownell, who stood by Col. Ellsworth at his death, to be a Second Lieutenant in this corps.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, June 20, 1861.

HON. SECRETARY OF WAR.

My dear Sir—Since you spoke to me yesterday about General J. H. Lane, of Kansas, I have been reflecting upon the subject, and have concluded that we need the services of such a man out there at once; that we had better appoint him a brigadier general of volunteers to-day, and send him off with such authority to raise a force (I think two regiments better than three, but as to this I am not particular) as you think will get him into actual

work quickest. Tell him when he starts to put it through—not to be writing or telegraphing back here, but put it through.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

The original draft of the message, in Lincoln's autograph manuscript, thus defines the executive authority with that force of statement and strength of phraseology of which he was so consummate a master:

July 4—1861

Soon after the first call for militia, I felt it my duty to authorize the commanding general, in proper cases, according to his discretion, to suspend the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*—or, in other words, to arrest and detain, without resort to the ordinary processes and forms of law, such individuals as he might deem dangerous to the public safety. At my verbal request, as well as by the general's own inclination, this authority has been exercised but very sparingly. Nevertheless, the legality and propriety of what has been done under it are questioned; and I have been reminded from a high quarter that one who is sworn to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed" should not himself be one to violate them. Of course I gave some consideration to the questions of power and propriety before I acted in this matter. The whole of the laws which I was sworn to take care that they be faithfully executed were being resisted, and failing to be executed, in nearly one-third of the States. Must I have allowed them to finally fail of execution, even had it been perfectly clear that by the use of the means necessary to their execution some single law, made in such extreme tenderness of the citizen's liberty, that practically it relieves more of the guilty than the innocent, should, to a very limited extent, be violated? To state the question more directly, are all the laws but one to go unexecuted, and the Government itself go to pieces, lest that one be violated? Even in such a case I should consider my official oath broken, if I should allow the Government to be overthrown, when I might think the disregarding the single law would tend to preserve it. But in this case I was not, in my own judgment, driven to this ground. In my opinion, I violated no law. The provision of the Constitution

that "The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended unless when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it," is equivalent to a provision—is a provision—that such privilege may be suspended when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety does require it. I decided that we have a case of rebellion, and that the public safety does require the qualified suspension of the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, which I authorized to be made. Now it is insisted that Congress, and not the Executive, is vested with this power. But the Constitution itself is silent as to which, or who, is to exercise the power; and as the provision plainly was made for a dangerous emergency, I cannot bring myself to believe that the framers of that instrument intended that in every case the danger should run its course until Congress could be called together, the very assembling of which might be prevented, as was intended in this case by the rebellion.

Executive Mansion, July 6, 1861.

HON. SEC. OF INTERIOR,

My Dear Sir: Please ask the Comr. of Indian Affairs, and of the Gen'l Land Office to come with you, and see me at once. I want the assistance of all of you in overhauling the list of appointments a little before I send them to the Senate.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

July 10, 1861.

J. MARDEVILLE CARLISLE.

I wish much to have your opinion, confidentially, on the effect of these measures, if they be passed. Will the Resolution remove the difficulties which you suggested, as preventing the condemnation of vessels captured for Beach of the Blockade? Will it have the effect in cases of vessels already captured hereafter? Taking the Resolution and the Bill together—do they leave the President the option of continuing a Blockade under the laws of Nations? . . .

A. L.

Private

Executive Mansion, July 20, 1861

HON. J. W. FORNEY

My dear Sir

There is a young man here by the name of Sympson (Senator Browning will give you his Christian name) to whom the giving of some place, if in your power, would greatly oblige me. His father is one of my best friends whom I have not, so far, been able to recognize in any substantial way.

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Sep. 1, 1862.

HON. SEC. OF WAR

Sir.

I personally know Dr. Levi D. Boone, of Chicago, Illinois, who is not in close confinement, but on limits, on parole, under bonds, and oath of allegiance— From my knowledge of him, and the open, and rather marked part he has taken for the war, I think he should be at best, enlarged generally, on the same terms— If the Sec. of War concurs, let it be done.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

War Department, Sept. 10th 1861.

TO THEIR EXCELLENCIES THE GOVERNORS OF THE SEVERAL
NEW ENGLAND STATES.

Messieurs: You are most respectfully requested to aid Major General Butler, in the recruitment and organization of the troops he is empowered to raise in New England in any way that may best promote the public service, and furnish him such facilities for that purpose as will, in your judgment, best subserve the cause of the country. With sentiments of respect,

Most sincerely yours,

A. LINCOLN

President.

Executive Mansion, Sept. 18, 1861.

HON. SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

My Dear Sir: To guard against misunderstanding, I think it fit to say that the joint expedition of the Army and Navy, agreed upon some time since and in which General T. W. (sic) Sherman was and is to bear a conspicuous part, is in no wise to be abandoned, but must be ready to move by the 1st of, or very early in October. Let all preparations go forward accordingly.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Private and Confidential.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 22, 1861.

MR. JAMES GORDON BENNETT.

My Dear Sir: Last evening Mr. Wikoff solicited me for a pass, or permission to a gentleman whose name I forget, to accompany one of our vessels down the Potomac to-day, as a reporter of the *Herald*, saying the Sec. of the Navy had refused, while he had given the privilege to reporters of others papers. It was too late at night for me to see the Secretary, and I had to decline giving the permission, because he, the Sec., might have a sufficient reason, unknown to me. I write this to assure you that the Administration will not discriminate against the *Herald*, especially while it sustains us so generously, and the cause of the country as ably as it has been doing.

Your Obt Servant,

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Sept. 25, 1861.

LIEUT. GENL. SCOTT,

My dear Sir:

The bearer of this—Mr. Pancoast—represents that he resides in Hampshire County, Va. on the Maryland border, in an isolated neighborhood of Union people, who are suffering for *salt*. He wants permission to take a limited supply for that neighborhood from Hagerstown through our lines. He says the nature of the country does not admit of the article being carried from where he will take it to any secession regions.

I know not whether his request is admissible; but thinking you will better understand the matter than I, I send him to you.

Very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Oct. 14, 1861

HON. SEC. OF INTERIOR

Dear Sir:

How is this? I supposed I was appointing for Register of Wills a *citizen of this District*. Now the Commission comes to me Moses Kelly, of *New Hampshire*. I do not like this—

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, October 14, 1861.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT.

The military line of the United States for the suppression of the insurrection may be extended so far as Bangor, Me. You and any officer acting under your authority are hereby authorized to suspend the writ of *habeas corpus* in any place between that place and the City of Washington.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

Executive Mansion, Oct. 17, 1861

MAJ. RAMSEY

My dear Sir

The lady—bearer of this—says she has two sons who want to work— Set them at it, if possible— Wanting to work is so rare a want, that it should be encouraged

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, October 21, 1861—10 p.m.

OFFICER IN COMMAND AT POOLESVILLE:

Send a mounted messenger to the battle-ground and bring me information from General Stone. I want the particulars as to result of engagement and the relative position of the forces for the night, their numbers, and such other information as will give me a correct understanding of affairs.

A. LINCOLN.

Private

Executive Mansion, Nov. 1st, 1861.

MAJ.-GEN. GEO. B. MCCLELLAN:

My Dear Sir: Lieut.-Gen. Scott having been, upon his own application, placed on the list of retired officers, with his advice, and the concurrence of the entire Cabinet, I have designated you to command the whole army. You will, therefore, assume this enlarged duty at once, conferring with me so far as necessary.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

P.S.—For the present let Gen. Wool's command be excepted.

A. L.

Executive Mansion, Nov. 13, 1861.

HON. SEC. OF WAR.

My dear sir

Please have the Adjutant General ascertain whether 2nd. Lieut of Co. D. 2nd. Infantry—Alexander E. Drake, is not entitled to promotion— His wife thinks he is. Please have this looked into.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

November 15, 1861, Conversation with Benson J. Lossing concerning the capture of Mason and Slidell, Confederate commissioners, upon the British vessel, *Trent*.

We must stick to American principles concerning the rights of neutrals. We fought Great Britain for insisting by theory and practice on the right to do exactly what Captain Wilkes has done. If Great Britain shall now protest against the act and demand their release, we must give them up, apologize for the act as a vio-

lation of our doctrine, and thus forever bind her over to keep the peace in relation to neutrals, and so acknowledge that she has been wrong for sixty years.

LINCOLN'S REPLY TO A DELEGATION OF BALTIMORE WORKINGMEN
Nov. 15, 1861

"GENTLEMEN: I thank you for the address you have presented to me in behalf of the people of Baltimore. I have deplored the calamities which the sympathy of some misguided citizens of Maryland had brought down upon that patriotic and heretofore flourishing state. The prosperity of Baltimore up to the 19th of April last, was one of the wonders produced by the American Union. He who strangles himself, for whatever motive, is not more unreasonable than were those citizens of Baltimore who, in a single night, destroyed the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, the Northern Pennsylvania Railroad and the railroad from Baltimore to Philadelphia. From the day when that mad transaction occurred, the government of the United States has been diligently engaged in endeavoring to restore those great avenues to their former usefulness and at the same time, to save Baltimore and Maryland from the danger of complete ruin through an unnecessary and unnatural rebellion.

I congratulate you upon the declaration which the people of Baltimore and Maryland have made in the recent election, of their recent approbation of the acts of the federal government, and of their enduring loyalty to the Union. I regard the results of these elections as auspicious of returning loyalty throughout all the insurrectionary states.

Your wishes for fair participation by the mechanics and laboring men of Baltimore in the benefits of supplying of the government with materials and provisions are reasonable and just. They have deserved that participation. Loyalty has involved them in some danger and has demanded of them some sacrifices. Their wishes, as you have communicated them, shall be referred to the proper departments, and I am sure that every member of the administration will cheerfully lend his aid to carry them out, as far as it can be done consistently with the prudence and economy which ought always to regulate the public service."

Executive Mansion, Nov. 16, 1861

ADJUTANT GENERAL

Sir:

Lieut. John Watt who, I believe, has been detailed to do service about the White-House, is not needed for that purpose, and you assign him to his proper place in Regiment.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Dec. 4, 1861.

MY DEAR MADAM:

I take great pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your letter of Nov. 26; and in thanking you for the present by which it was accompanied. A pair of socks so fine, and soft, and warm, could hardly have been manufactured in any other way than the old Kentucky fashion. Your letter informs me that your maiden name was Crume, and that you were raised in Washington County, Kentucky, by which I infer that an uncle of mine by marriage was a relative of yours. Nearly or quite sixty years ago, Ralph Crume married Mary Lincoln, a sister of my father, in Washington County, Kentucky.

Accept my thanks, and believe me

Very truly,

Yours forever,

A. LINCOLN.

Mrs. Susannah Weathers,

Rossville, Clinton County, Ind.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Dec. 12, 1861.

REV. GEORGE H. STUART

Chairman of Christian Commission

My dear Sir:

Your letter of the 11th Inst. and accompanying plan, both of which are returned as a convenient mode of connecting this with them, have just been received— Your Christian and benevolent undertaking for the benefit of the soldiers, is too obviously proper, and praise-worthy, to admit any difference of opinion— I sin-

cerely hope your plan may be as successful in execution, as it is just and generous in conception.

Your Obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, D. C. December 31, 1861.

GENERAL HALLECK, St. Louis.

General McClellan is sick. Are General Buell and yourself in concert? When he moves on Bowling Green, what hinders it being reenforced from Columbus? A simultaneous move by you on Columbus might prevent it. Answer.

A. LINCOLN.

MY DEAR PRESIDENT:

Have you any good or bad news?

W. H. S.

None at all.

A. L.

It is interesting to conjecture what this brief but significant correspondence refers to; it may have reference to one of the great battles of 1862, *Antietam*, perhaps, "news" of which the President and his Cabinet awaited in Washington in the utmost anxiety.

REPLY TO IOWA QUAKERS THROUGH SENATOR HARLEN ^a ✓

January 5—1862

It is most cheering and encouraging for me to know that in the efforts which I have made, and am making, for the restoration of a righteous peace to our country, I am upheld and sustained by the good wishes and prayers of God's people. No one is more deeply than myself aware that without His favor our highest wisdom is but as foolishness, and that our most strenuous efforts would avail nothing in the shadow of His displeasure. It seems to me that if there be one subject upon which all good men may unitedly agree, it is in imploring the gracious favor of the God of Nations upon the struggle, our people are making, for the preservation of their precious birthright of civil and religious liberty.

As the year 1862 opened the newly formed Congressional Committee on the Conduct of the War was pressing McClellan hard for his inactivity. Although popular sentiment was overwhelmingly with the Committee, Lincoln was shielding the General as well as he could. At the time this note was written McClellan was recovering from an attack of typhoid fever.

Executive Mansion, Jan. 9. 1862

MAJR. GENL. MCCLELLAN.

My dear Sir:

I think you better go before the Congressional Committee the earliest moment your health will permit—to-day, if possible.

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

Will Mr. Warton (?) please consult with the President on the within subject—

W. H. S.

Deal with a man in Illinois, as you would if he were in any other state.

Jan. 17, 1862

A. L.

Abraham Lincoln,

President of the United States of America.

To Her Majesty Victoria,

Queen of the United Kingdom

of Great Britain and Ireland,

&c., &c., &c. Sendeth Greeting

GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND:

By a letter from your son His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, which has just been received, I am informed of the overwhelming affliction which has fallen upon Your Majesty, by the untimely death of His Royal Highness the late Prince Consort, Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg.

The offer of condolence in such cases is a customary ceremony, which has its good uses, though it is conventional, and may sometimes be even insincere. But I would fain have Your Majesty apprehend on this occasion, that real sympathy can exist, as real

truthfulness can be practised in the intercourse of nations. The people of the United States are kindred of the People of Great Britain. With all our distinct national interests, objects and aspirations, we are conscious that our moral strength is largely derived from that relationship, and we think we do not deceive ourselves when we suppose that by constantly cherishing cordial friendship and sympathy with the other branches of the family to which we belong, we impart to them not less strength than we derive from the same connection. Accidents, however, incidental to all states, and passions, common to all nations often tend to disturb the harmony so necessary and so proper between the two countries, and to convert them into enemies. It was reserved for Your Majesty in sending your Son, the Heir apparent of the British Throne, on a visit among us, to inaugurate a policy destined to counteract these injurious tendencies, as it has been Your Majesty's manifest endeavor through a reign already of considerable length and of distinguished success, to cultivate the friendship on our part so earnestly desired. It is for this reason that you are honored on this side of the Atlantic as a friend of the American People. The late Prince Consort was with sufficient evidence regarded as your Counsellor in the same friendly relation. The American People therefore deplore his death and sympathize in Your Majesty's irreparable bereavement with an unaffected sorrow. This condolence may not be altogether ineffectual, since we are sure it emanated from only virtuous motives and fraternal affection. I do not dwell upon it, however, because I know that the Divine hand that has wounded, is the only one that can heal: And so commending Your Majesty and the Prince Royal, the Heir Apparent and all your afflicted family to the tender mercies of God, I remain

Your Good Friend,

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Washington, 1st Feb. 1862.

By the President,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

The President of the United States to the King of Siam.
Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States of America, to
his Majesty Somdetch Phra Paramendr Maha Mongkut,
King of Siam, &c.

GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND:

I have received your Majesty's two letters of the date of February 14, 1861. I have also received in good condition the royal gifts which accompanied those letters, namely, a sword, of costly materials and exquisite workmanship; a photographic likeness of your Majesty and of your Majesty's beloved daughter; and also two elephant's tusks of length and magnitude, such as indicate that they could have belonged only to an animal which was a native of Siam.

Your Majesty's letters show an understanding that our laws forbid the President from receiving these rich presents as personal treasures. They are therefore accepted in accordance with your Majesty's desire as tokens of your good will and friendship for the American people. Congress being now in session at this capital, I have had great pleasure in making known to them this manifestation of your Majesty's munificence and kind consideration.

Under their directions the gifts will be placed among the archives of the government, where they will remain perpetually as tokens of mutual esteem and pacific dispositions more honorable to both nations than any trophies of conquest could be.

I appreciate most highly your Majesty's tender of good offices in forwarding to this government a stock from which a supply of elephants might be raised on our own soil. This government would not hesitate to avail itself of so generous an offer if the object were one which could be made practically useful in the present condition of the United States. Our political jurisdiction, however, does not reach a latitude so low as to favor the multiplication of the elephant, and steam on land, as well as on water, has been our best and most efficient agent of transportation in internal commerce.

I shall have occasion at no distant day to transmit to your Majesty some token of indication of the high sense which this government entertains of your Majesty's friendship.

Meantime, wishing for your Majesty a long and happy life, and for the generous and emulous people of Siam the highest possible prosperity, I commend both to the blessing of Almighty God.

Your good friend,

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Washington, February 3, 1862.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Feb. 5, 1862.

HON. GIDEON WELLES.

My dear Sir.

Hon. Mr. Veree, of Penn, makes such representation, as to the Naval Agent at Philadelphia, and a sort of *factotum* of his, one Derringer, as makes me think your Department better look to it.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, 18 Feby. 1862.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY,

PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

Sir.

Col. Hatfield is impressed with the belief that I have not faithfully urged his appointment to a Brigadiership with your Excellency chiefly on account of the few words I said to you in relation to Col. Allen. You will remember that upon the eve of the departure of the Burnside Expedition I said to you that Col. Allen would like to be made a Brigadier over the Regiment which he had commanded as acting Brigadier. At the same time I stated that I did not desire *that he should by any means interfere with my application previously made for Hatfield and that Allen should only be advanced if two were given to us, and that I desired Hatfield to be understood to be my choice over all others*

Your Excellency knows how faithfully, zealously, and importunately I have urged Hatfield's appointment and I beg you to

write on this note that I have acted in good faith with him, and urged his success to the best of my ability.

I have the honor to be very respectfully

WM. A. NEWELL.

Executive Mansion, Feb. 18, 1862.

HON. W. A. NEWELL,

My dear Sir

Your note on the other half of this sheet is exactly true so far as is within my power to know. Your advocacy of Col. Hatfield for a Brigadier General has been earnest, without reservation, oft repeated, and persistent, so that I can and do know it was not in your power to do more for Col. Hatfield with me than you have done—

You never urged Col. Allen, except with the express reservation that his appointment should in no wise interfere with Col. Hatfield.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

(Willie Lincoln died February 20, 1862, aged twelve years.)

To Colonel Cannon.

Colonel, did you ever dream of a lost friend, and feel that you were holding sweet communion with that friend, and yet have a sad consciousness that it was not a reality? Just so I dream of my boy, Willie.

To a Christian lady.

I had lived until my boy, Willie, died, without realizing fully these things. That blow overwhelmed me. It showed me my weakness as I had never felt it before, and if I can take what you have stated as a test, I think I can safely say that I know something of that change of which you speak; and I will further add, that it has been my intention for some time, at a suitable opportunity, to make a public religious profession.

Executive Mansion, Washington, March 4, 1862

WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Edward Burke, the bearer of this, was at service in this Mansion for several months now last past; and during all the time he

If it is definitely concluded
to accept Judge Parks' resigna-
tion, as I understand it is, let
the other appointments be made.

A. Lincoln

April 14. 1865.

Last Appointment

Executive Mansion.

Washington, April 14 1865

Hon. Sec. of State
Sir.

Please assemble
the Cabinet at 11. A.M. to-day.
Gen. Grant will meet with
us.

Yours truly

A. Lincoln

Last Call for Cabinet Meeting

appeared to me to be a competent, faithful, and very genteel man— I take no charge of the servants about the house; but I do not understand that Burke leaves because of any fault or misconduct.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, March 5, 1862

HON. SEC. OF STATE

My dear Sir

Please summon the Cabinet to meet me here at 7 o'clock this evening.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, March 10, 1862.

HON. GIDEON WELLES.

My dear Sir.

I have just seen Lieut Worden, who says the "Monitor" could be boarded and Captured very easily, first, after boarding, by wedging the turret, so that it would not turn, and then by pouring water in her & drowning her machinery. He is decidedly of Opinion she should not go sky-larking up to Norfolk.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

NOMINATION

March 22, 1862.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO ALL WHO
SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

Know ye that, reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism, valor, fidelity, and abilities of John Pope, I have nominated, and by and with the advice and consent of the senate, do appoint him major-general of volunteers in the service of the United States, to rank as such from the 21st day of March, 1862. He is, therefore, carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of major-general, by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging. And I do strictly charge and require all officers and soldiers under his command to be obedient to his orders as major-general. And he is to observe and follow such orders and

directions, from time to time, as he shall receive from me, or the future President of the United States of America, or the general or other superior officers set over him, according to the rules and discipline of war. This commission to continue in force during the pleasure of the President of the United States for the time being.

Given under my hand, at the city of Washington, this 22d day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, and in the eighty-sixth year of the independence of the United States.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Private.

Executive Mansion, Washington, March 24, 1862.

HON. HORACE GREELEY.

My Dear Sir: Your very kind letter of the 16th to Mr. Colfax has been shown me by him. I am grateful for the generous sentiments and purposes expressed toward the administration. Of course I am anxious to see the policy proposed in the late special message go forward, but you have advocated it from the first, so that I need to say little to you on the subject. If I were to suggest anything it would be that as the North is already for the measure, we should urge it persuasively, and not menacingly, upon the South. I am a little uneasy about the abolishment of slavery in the District, not but I would be glad to see it abolished, but as to the time and manner of doing it. If some one or more of the border states would move first, I should greatly prefer it, but if this cannot be, in a reasonable time, I would like the bill to have three main features—gradual—compensation—and vote of the people. I do not talk to members of Congress on the subject, except when they ask me. I am not prepared to make any suggestion about confiscation. I may drop you a line hereafter.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, March 31, 1862.

MAJOR-GENERAL McCLELLAN.

My dear Sir: This morning I felt constrained to order Blenker's division to Fremont, and I write this to assure you that I did so with great pain, understanding that you would wish it

otherwise. If you could know the full pressure of the case I am confident you would justify it, even beyond a mere acknowledgment that the Commander-in-Chief may order what he pleases.

Yours, very truly,

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, April 2, 1862

MY DEAR SIR

Allow me to thank you in behalf of my little son for your present of White Rabbits. He is very much pleased with them.

Yours truly

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

MICHAEL CROCK ESQ

860 N Fourth St. Phila Pa.

Abraham Lincoln,

President of the United States of America.

To His Majesty, Alexander II,

Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russias,

&c.,

&c.,

&c.

GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND:

I have made choice of Simon Cameron, one of our distinguished citizens to reside near Your Imperial Majesty in the quality of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America. He is well informed of the relative interests of the two Countries, and of our sincere desire to cultivate and strengthen the friendship and good correspondence between us, and from a knowledge of his fidelity, probity, and good conduct, I have entire confidence that he will render himself acceptable to Your Majesty by his constant endeavors to preserve and advance the interest and happiness of both nations. I therefore request Your Majesty to receive him favorably and to give full credence to whatever he shall say on the part of the United States, and most of all when he shall assure Your Majesty of their friendship and good wishes for your prosperity: and I pray God to have Your Imperial Majesty in His safe and holy keeping.

Written at Washington, the 8th day of April, Anno Domini,
1862.

Your Good Friend

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President

WILLIAM H. SEWARD
Secretary of State

On a large bundle of papers covering but a single case, and that unimportant, appears the following sententious remark:

What possible injury can this lad work upon the cause of this great Union? I say let him go.

A. LINCOLN.

April 10, 1862.

GENTLEMEN:—Yours of to-day, with the enclosure from Mr. Ridgely, has been received and referred to General Scott, as I know nothing whatever of the particular case.

May I beg you to consider the difficulties of my position and solicit your kind assistance in it? Our security in the seizing of arms for our destruction will amount to nothing at all, if we are never to make mistakes in searching a place where there are none. I shall continue to do the very best I can to discriminate between *true* and *false* men. In the mean time, let me, once more, beg your assistance in allaying irritations which are unavoidable.

Yours, very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

To Mr. McDonough, an actor, who called at the White House, accompanied by W. D. Kelley.

I am very glad to meet you, Mr. McDonough, and I am grateful to Kelley for bringing you in so early, for I want you to tell me something about Shakespeare's plays as they are constructed for the stage. You can imagine that I do not get much time to study such matters, but I recently had a couple of talks with Hackett—Baron Hackett, as they call him—who is famous as Jack Falstaff, from whom I elicited few satisfactory replies,

though I probed him with a good many questions. . . . Hackett's lack of information impressed me with a doubt as to whether he had ever studied Shakespeare's text.

To a chaplain who was present.

From your calling it is probable that you do not know that the acting plays which people crowd to hear are not always those planned by their reputed authors. Thus, take the stage edition of *Richard III.* It opens with a passage from *Henry VI.*, after which comes portions of *Richard III.*, then another scene from *Henry VI.*, and the finest soliloquy in the play, if we may judge from the many quotations it furnishes, and the frequency with which it is heard in amateur exhibitions, was never seen by Shakespeare, but was written—was it not, Mr. McDonough?—after his death, by Colley Cibber.

To an acquaintance in Springfield, Illinois.

Did you ever write out a story in your mind? I did when I was a little codger. One day a wagon with a lady and two girls and a man broke down near us, and while they were fixing up, they cooked in our kitchen. The woman had books and read us stories, and they were the first I ever had heard. I took a great fancy to one of the girls; and when they were gone I thought of her a great deal, and one day when I was sitting out in the sun by the house I wrote out a story in my mind. I thought I took my father's horse and followed the wagon, and finally I found it, and they were surprised to see me. I talked with the girl and persuaded her to elope with me; and that night I put her on my horse, and we started off across the prairie. After several hours we came to a camp, and when we rode up we found it was the one we had left a few hours before, and we went in. The next night we tried it again, and the same thing happened—the horse came back to the same place; and then we concluded that we ought not to elope. I stayed until I had persuaded her father to give her to me. I always meant to write that story out and publish it, and I began once; but I concluded it was not much of a story. But I think that was the beginning of love with me.

A LINCOLN SENTIMENT

Lincoln knew the etiquette of correspondence, and, as in this story from the *Washington Star*, knew how to teach it to others.

At a lodge in Philadelphia a group of very old men, some with empty sleeves and some with empty trouser legs, were telling stories about Lincoln.

"My wife collected autographs," said one. "She once wrote to Lincoln for a sentiment and his autograph, and she got in reply a note that ran:

"'Dear Madam. When you ask from a stranger that which is of intrest only to yourself, always enclose a stamp. There's your sentiment, and here's your autograph.—A. LINCOLN.'"

SERMON TO BOYS.—LITTLE PEOPLE.

Mr. Lincoln often gave the following advice, which he called his "sermon" to boys.

Don't drink, don't smoke, don't chew, don't swear, don't gamble, don't lie, don't cheat. Love your fellow-men and love God. Love truth, love virtue, and be happy.

In answer to a memorial from the children and young people of Concord, Massachusetts, petitioning for the freedom of all slave children.

Tell those little people I am very glad their young hearts are so full of just and generous sympathy, and that while I have not the power to grant all they ask, I trust they will remember that God has; and that it seems his will to do it.

BUT ONE WAY.

Related to a friend, concerning the treachery of his partner in 1834, throwing a heavy debt on him, which, in years afterward, he paid.

That debt was the greatest obstacle I have ever met in life.

I had no way of speculating, and could not earn money except by labor; and to earn by labor eleven hundred dollars, besides my living, seemed the work of a lifetime. There was, however, but one way. I went to the creditors, and told them that if they would let me alone I would give them all I could earn over my living, as fast as I could earn it.

Washington, April 15, 1862.

TO THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES:

On the 26th of June, 1860, the Senate approved of the treaty of friendship and commerce between the United States and Nicaragua, signed on the 16th of March, 1859, with certain amendments.

On the next day, namely, June 27, 1860, the Senate adopted a resolution extending the period for the exchange of the ratifications of the treaty for six months from that date; that is, until the 27th of December, 1860.

Although the amendments of the Senate were immediately transmitted to our minister in Nicaragua for submission to the Government of that Republic, he failed, notwithstanding earnest efforts, to induce that Government to call an extra session of Congress to take into consideration the amendments of the Senate of the United States within the supplementary time named in the resolution of June 27, 1860, for the exchange of ratifications.

It was not until the 25th of March, 1861, nearly three months after the expiration of the six months extended by the Senate resolution, that the Congress of Nicaragua acted favorably upon the amendments of the Senate of the United States.

A translation of the decree of the Nicaraguan Government approving the treaty as amended, with an additional amendment, is herewith inclosed.

It will be perceived that while the ratification of Nicaragua recites literally the second amendment of the Senate and accepts it with an additional clause, it does not in explicit terms accept the first amendment of the Senate, striking out the last clause of the sixteenth article.

That amendment is of so much importance that the adoption or rejection of it by the Government of Nicaragua should not be left to construction or inference.

The final amendment of that Government properly extended the time of exchanging ratifications for an additional twelve months. That time has expired. For obvious reasons connected with our internal affairs, the subject has not sooner been submitted to the Senate, but the treaty is now laid before that body, with this brief historical sketch and the decree of the Nicaraguan Government, for such further advice as may be deemed necessary and proper in regard to the acceptance or rejection of the amendments of Nicaragua.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Said to a legal friend after receiving \$500 in a criminal case, soon after he commenced the practice of law.

Look here, Judge, see what a heap of money I've got from the — case. Did you ever see anything like it? Why, I never had so much money in my life before, put it all together. I have got just five hundred dollars: if it were only seven hundred and fifty, I would go directly and purchase a quarter section of land and settle it upon my old stepmother.

His friend proposed to loan him the deficiency, and suggested that the property be for her use, to revert to Lincoln upon her death.

I shall do no such thing. It is a poor return, at the best, for all the good woman's devotion and fidelity to me, and there is not going to be any half-way business about it.

To a Washington correspondent who entered the President's office and found him very busy counting greenbacks.

This, sir, is something out of my usual line; but a President of the United States has a multiplicity of duties not specified in the Constitution or acts of Congress. This is one of them. This money belongs to a poor negro who is a porter in the Treasury Department, at present very bad with the smallpox. He is now in the hospital, and could not draw his pay because he could not sign his name. I have been at considerable trouble to overcome the difficulty and get it for him, and have at length succeeded in

cutting red tape, as you newspaper men say. I am now dividing the money and putting by a portion labeled, in an envelope, with my own hands, according to his wish.

Said in the presence of some ladies visiting the Soldiers' Home at Washington.

Let me discourse on a theme which I understand. I know all about trees in the light of being a backwoodsman. I'll show you the difference between spruce, pine, and cedar, and this shred of green, which is neither one nor the other, but a kind of illegitimate cypress. Trees are as deceptive in their likeness to one another as are certain classes of men, amongst whom none but a physiognomist eye can deter dissimilar moral features until events have developed them. Do you know it would be a good thing if in all the schools proposed and carried out by the improvement of modern thinkers, we could have a school of events? It is only by that active development that character and ability can be tested. Understand me, I now mean men, not trees; *they* can be tried, and an analysis of their strength obtained less expensive to life and human interests than man's. What I say now is a mere whimsey, you know; but when I speak of a school of events, I mean one in which, before entering real life, students might pass through the mimic vicissitudes and situations that are necessary to bring out their powers and mark the calibre to which they are assigned. Thus one could select from the graduates an invincible soldier, equal to any position, with no such word as "fail"; a martyr to Right, ready to give up life in the cause; a politician too cunning to be outwitted; and so on. These things have all to be tried, and their sometimes failure creates confusion as well as disappointment. There is no more dangerous or expensive analysis than that which consists of trying a man.

To the synod of the old-school Presbyterians of Baltimore, who waited on him in a body.

I saw upon taking my position here, I was going to have an administration, if administration at all, of extraordinary difficulty. It was without exception a time of the greatest difficulty

this country ever saw. I was early brought to a lively reflection that nothing in my power, or others, to rely upon would succeed without direct assistance from the Almighty. I have often wished that I was a more devout man than I am. Nevertheless, amid the greatest difficulties of my administration, when I could not see any other resort, I would place my whole reliance in God, knowing that he would decide for the right.

To Attorney-General Bates, who requested, as a personal favor, the parole of the son of an old friend in Virginia, who had been captured.

Bates, I have an almost parallel case. The son of an old friend of mine in Illinois ran off and entered the rebel army. The young fool has been captured, and is a prisoner of war, and his old, broken-hearted father has asked me to send him home, promising, of course, to keep him there. I have not seen my way clear to do it; but if you and I unite our influence with this administration, I believe we can manage it together and make two loyal fathers happy. Let us make them our prisoners.

To Colonel Cannon.

By the way, I can tell you a good story about my hair. When I was nominated at Chicago, an enterprising fellow thought that a great many people would like to see how Abe Lincoln looked, and, as I had not long before sat for a photograph, the fellow, having seen it, rushed over and bought the negative. He at once got out no end of wood-cuts, and so active was their circulation they were soon selling in all parts of the country. Soon after they reached Springfield I heard a boy crying them for sale on the streets. "Here's your likeness of Abe Lincoln!" he shouted. "Buy one, price only two shillings! Will look a good deal better when he gets his hair combed!"

To a number of Kentuckians who insisted that troops should not be sent through their State to put down the war in Tennessee.

I am a good deal like the farmer who, returning to his home one winter night, found his two sweet little boys asleep with a

hideous serpent crawling over their bodies. He could not strike the serpent without wounding or killing the children, so he calmly waited until it had moved away. Now, I do not want to act in a hurry about this matter; I don't want to hurt anybody in Kentucky; but I will get the serpent out of Tennessee.

To General John M. Thayer, in early part of the Rebellion.

Somehow or other, I have always felt a leaning toward Grant, and have been inclined to place confidence in him. Ever since he sent that memorable message to Buckner at Donelson, when the latter asked for terms of surrender—"No terms but unconditional surrender; I propose to move immediately upon your works"—I have had great confidence in Grant, and have felt that he was a man I could tie to, though I have never seen him. It is a source of much satisfaction that my confidence in him has not been misplaced.

To a farmer who went to the President complaining that Union soldiers in passing his place had taken his hay and horse, and wanted his claim considered immediately.

Why, my good sir, if I should attempt to consider every such individual case I should find work for twenty Presidents! In my early days I knew one, Jack Chase, who was a lumberman on the Illinois, and, when steady and sober, the best raftsman on the river. It was quite a trick twenty-five years ago to take the logs over the rapids, but he was skillful with a raft, and always kept her straight in the channel. Finally a steamer was put on, and Jack—he's dead now, poor fellow!—was made captain of her. He always used to take the wheel going through the rapids. One day, when the boat was plunging and wallowing along the boiling current, and Jack's utmost vigilance was being exercised to keep her in the narrow channel, a boy pulled his coat-tail and hailed him with, "Say, Mister Captain! I wish you would just stop your boat a minute—I've lost my apple overboard."

To Honorable Schuyler Colfax, who requested the respite of a son of a constituent who was sentenced to be shot.

Some of our generals complain that I impair discipline and

subordination in the army by my pardons and respites, but it makes me rested, after a hard day's work, if I can find some good excuse for saving a man's life, and I go to bed happy as I think how joyous the signing of my name will make him and his family and his friends.

On another occasion, when someone made an application for pardon for a deserter.

Did you say he was once badly wounded? Then, as the Scriptures say that in the shedding of blood is the remission of sins, I guess we'll have to let him off this time.

Regarding disaster at Bull Run, Lincoln said:

Here is the topographical engineers' map that we planned the battle by. I gave Scott my views; I showed him the enemies' forces, their positions and entrenchments—their railway facilities—capacities for reinforcing and what Johnson might do; I particularly tried to impress on him the disadvantage Patterson's forces labored under of having no communication but by a common road; but to all I could urge, or suggest, or doubt, Scott would not reply in detail or specifically, but would scout the idea that we could be defeated; and I really could not get him down to a consideration of the subject in a practical way; he would insist that we couldn't be beat, no how, and that was all there was of it. . . .

I intend to make and keep the blockade as effective as I can; that is very difficult to do, and it gives me a great deal of trouble, as the line of coast is long; but I attach great importance to that measure, and I mean to do the best I can about it; then I want to move a column of the army into East Tennessee, to liberate the union sentiment there; I want to press them here in Virginia, and keep them away from Washington; I want to hem in those who are fighting us, and make a feint against Richmond, and drive them away from Manassas; I hope ultimately they will get tired of it, and arouse and say to their leaders, and to their politicians, "This thing has got to stop!" That is our only chance. It is plain to me that it's no use of trying to subdue those people if they remain united, and bound they won't be subdued.

I will suffer death before I will consent, or suffer my friends

to consent, to any concession or compromise which looks like the privilege of taking possession of the government to which we have a constitutional right, because whatever I might think of the merit of the various propositions before Congress, I should regard any concession in the face of menace, as the destruction of the government itself, and a consent on all hands that our system shall be brought down to a level with the existing disorganized state of affairs in Mexico. But this thing will hereafter be as it is now, in the hands of the people: and if they desire to call a convention to renew any grievances complained of, or to give new guarantees for the permanence of vested rights, it is not mine to oppose.

Executive Mansion—
Washington, May 3, 1862

Today Mr. Senator
Wright introduced a
committee of citizens
of the District consisting
of

William Dixon

William Wise

Henry Lee

Reuben Bacon

Henry B. Grinnell

W. J. Murtaugh

James H. Lusby

who ask the

appointment of George

W. Garrete as Warden

of Penitentiary.

A. LINCOLN.

A. LINCOLN.

Dated at Washington 9th May 1862

TO HON. ANDREW JOHNSON

Your dispatch about seizing Seventy rebels to exchange for a like number of Union men was duly recd.

I certainly do not disapprove the proposition.

A. LINCOLN.

A card, upon which Lincoln has written: Mr. Watson, Assistant Secretary of War, please see the bearer, who is the man of whom I spoke in reference to a diving invention. A. LINCOLN. May 9, 1863.

Fort Monroe, Va. May 11, 1862

MAJOR GEN. HALLECK

Pittsburg Landing, Tenn.

Norfolk in our possession, Merrimac blown up, & Monitor & other boats going up James River to Richmond. Be very careful to sustain no reverse in your Department.

A. LINCOLN.

In the last line of the foregoing Lincoln had written "sure," but Stanton substituted "careful."

Executive Mansion, Washington, May 13, 1862

CHARLES L. FLINT, Esq.

My dear Sir

Allow me to thank you very cordially for the copy of your work on "Insects Injurious to Vegetation" which you have had the kindness to send me, and believe me

Yours very sincerely

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, May 15, 1862.

HON. HENRY WILSON

My dear Sir—

I would gladly say a word for the two establishments at Philadelphia, one called the "Union Volunteer Refreshment Saloon" and the other the "Cooper Shop" if I could do so with propriety and good taste— But I know nothing of the facts myself, and could only say hypothetically, that if they have dealt so generously with our volunteers, as I have frequently heard, and believe, they are indeed worthy of all praise—

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, May 21, 1862.

HON. SENATOR SIMMONS.

This distressed girl says she belongs to your state; that she was here with her father and brother, in our Army, till they went with it to the peninsula; that her brother has been killed there & her father made prisoner, and that she is here, wanting employment to support herself, etc.

I know nothing of this case—know not where Mr. Alden is—whether any proceedings are on foot against him—I should not knowingly let him be punished, if shown he has the infirmity stated in the affidavit, though the infirmity may be sufficient reason for dismissing him from the service.

May 21, 1862

A. LINCOLN.

Private

Executive Mansion, May 21, 1862.

JAMES G. BENNETT, Esq

Dear Sir:

Thanking you again for the able support given by you, through the Herald, to what I think the true cause of the country, and also for your kind expressions towards me personally, I wish to correct an erroneous impression of yours in regard to the Secretary of War. He mixes no politics whatever with his duties; knew nothing of Gen. Hunter's proclamation; and he and I alone got up the counter proclamation. I wish this to go no further than to you, while I do wish to assure you it is true.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, May 22, 1862.

HON. SEC. OF WAR

My dear Sir

The bearer of this, Dr. Tarrant A. Perkins, was appointed a Brigadier Surgeon by me, and was serving in Western Virginia, when wishing to be transferred West, under bad advice, he re-

signed, expecting to get a new appointment, and thus to effect his object— Of course this simply got him out of the service. He is, however, my personal friend, for whom, and whose family I have great kindness of feeling— I shall be personally obliged, if it can be arranged to reappoint him, and order him to report for duty anywhere in Gen. Halleck's Department.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, May 22, 1862.

I am personally acquainted with Dr. Stone, the writer of the within paper, and believe him to be a skilful physician, altogether capable of forming a correct opinion on the subject he within has spoken upon. I think it probable the disinfectant would be valuable in our hospitals and camps; and, with the consent of the Surgeon General, I should be glad for Dr. Kidwell to be allowed to introduce it.

A. LINCOLN.

This boy is said to be only nineteen years of age, and so diseased as to be unfit for Military duty. As nearly the entire Congressional delegations from Ky. & Va. ask his release, the Secretary of War will please bail him to the bearer, who is his brother-in-law.

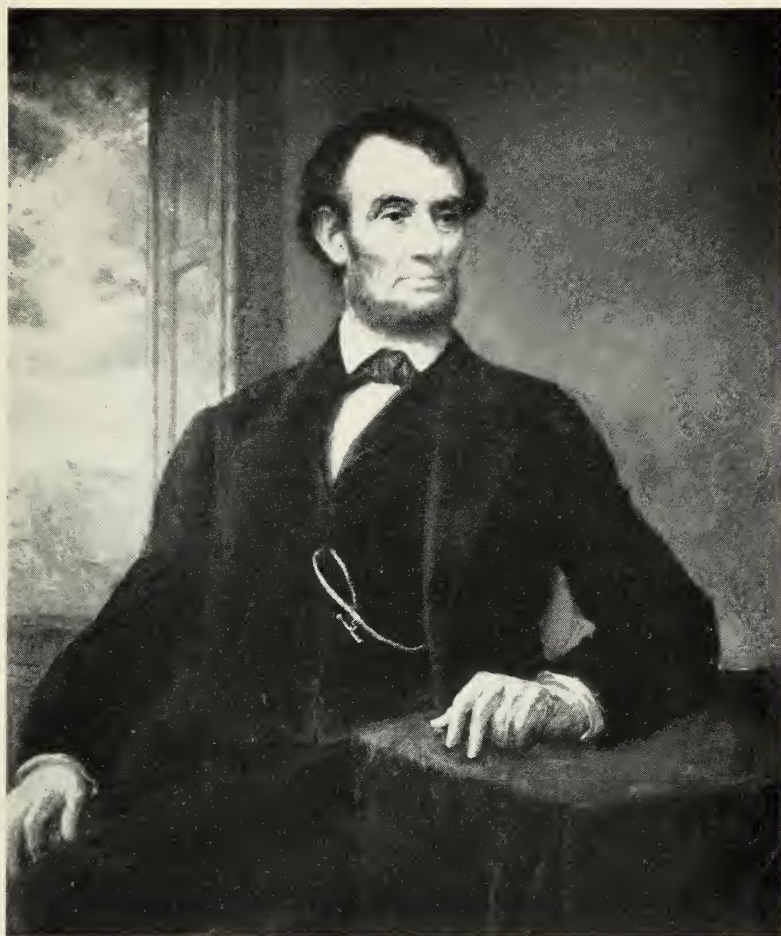
A. LINCOLN.

May 29, 1862.

This letter was written to Secretary Stanton by President Lincoln in June, 1862.

DEAR SIR: The bearer of this, William J. Post, a member of the 140th Pennsylvania Regiment, wants to go to his home in Washington, Pa. As you can see, he is nothing but a boy, has been sick in the hospital, but I believe he is made of the right kind of stuff. Please see to his release and that he gets transportation home.

A. LINCOLN.



Portrait by Daniel Huntington
(In the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York)

PRIVATE

War Department, Washington, D. C., June 5, 1862.

HON. SEC. OF WAR.

My dear Sir

Herewith I return you the papers in relation to the proposed re-appointment of William Kellogg, Jr. to a Cadetship. Upon Gen. Totten's statement of the case I think it is natural that he should feel as he expresses himself. And yet the case comes upon me in the very strongest way to be painful to me. Hon. William Kellogg, the father, is not only a member of Congress from my state, but he is my personal friend of more than twenty years' standing, and of whom I had many personal kindnesses. This matter touches him very deeply—the feelings of a father for a child—as he thinks, all the future of his child. I can not be the instrument to crush his heart. According to strict rule he has the right to make the re-nomination. Let the appointment be made. It needs not become a precedent. Hereafter let no resignation be accepted under demerit amounting to cause for dismissal, unless upon express stipulation in writing that the cadet resigning shall not be renominated. In this I mean no censure upon Gen. Totten; and although I have marked this note "*private*" I am quite willing for him to see it.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Believing that William Griffin, named within, has been sufficiently punished, he is hereby pardoned of so much of the sentence against him as has not already been executed.

A. LINCOLN.

June 26, 1862.

In reply to Mr. Dixon, a Congressman from Rhode Island, who was appointed to represent the views of a meeting of Governors of Northern States, June 28, 1862, urging for a more aggressive campaign.

Dixon, you are a good fellow, and I have always had a good opinion of you. It is needless for me to say that what comes from those who sent you here is authoritative. The Governors of the Northern States are the North. What they decide must be carried

out. Still, in justice to myself, you must remember that Abraham Lincoln is President of the United States. Anything that the President of the United States does, right or wrong, will be the act of Abraham Lincoln, and Abraham Lincoln will, by the people, be held responsible for the President's action. But I have a proposition to make to you. Go home and think the matter over. Come to me to-morrow morning at nine o'clock, and I will promise to do anything that you by then have determined upon as the right and proper thing to do. Good-night.

Washington, D. C., June 28, 1862

CADET QUINTIN CAMPBELL

My dear Sir

Your good mother tells me you are feeling very badly in your new situation— Allow me to assure you it is a perfect certainty that you will, very soon, feel better—quite happy—if you only stick to the resolution you have taken to procure a military education— I am older than you, have felt badly myself, and *know* what I tell you is true. Adhere to your purpose and you will soon feel as well as you ever did— On the contrary, if you falter, and give up, you will lose the power of keeping any resolution, and will regret it all your life. Take the advice of a friend, who, though he never saw you, deeply sympathizes with you, and stick to your purpose.

Sincerely your friend

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, June 30, 1862.

MAJOR-GENERAL HUNTER.

My Dear General:—I have just received your letter of the 25th of June.

I assure you, and you may feel authorized in stating, that the recent change of commanders in the Department of the South was made for no reasons which convey any imputation upon your known energy, efficiency and patriotism, but for causes which seemed sufficient, while they were in no degree incompatible with the respect and esteem in which I have always held you as a man and an officer.

I can not, by giving my consent to a publication of whose details I know nothing, assume the responsibility of whatever you may write. In this matter your own sense of military propriety must be your guide, and the regulation of the service your rule of conduct. I am, very truly, your friend,

A. LINCOLN.

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.

Washington, D. C., July 3, 1862—10.30 a. m.

GOVERNOR WASHBURN,

Augusta, Me.

My dear Sir: I should not want the half of 300,000 new troops if I could have them now. If I had 50,000 additional troops here now I believe I could substantially close the war in two weeks. But time is everything, and if I get 50,000 new men in a month I shall have lost 20,000 old ones during the same month, having gained only 30,000 with the difference between old and new troops still against me. The quicker you send the fewer you will have to send. Time is everything. Please act in view of this. The enemy having given up Corinth, it is not wonderful that he is thereby enabled to check us for a time at Richmond.

Yours, truly,

A. LINCOLN.

War Department,

Washington City, D. C., July 3, 1862.

MAJOR-GENERAL DIX, Fort Monroe:

What news if any have you from General Burnside?

A. LINCOLN.

July 3, 1862.

HON. ANDREW JOHNSON.

My Dear Sir: You are aware we have called for a big levy of new troops. If we can get a fair share of them in Tennessee I shall value it more highly than a like number most anywhere else, because of the face of the thing, and because they will be at the very place that needs protection. Please do what you can, and do it quickly. Time is everything. A word on another subject. If we

could, somehow, get a vote of the people of Tennessee and have it result properly it would be worth more to us than a battle gained. How long before we can get such a vote?

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

A little later President Lincoln sent another private letter, and again his theme is the effort to restore the law-abiding citizens the rights to which they, as free Americans, were entitled. He says to Governor Johnson:

I send by Judge John S. Brien a blank book and some other blanks to facilitate the taking oath of Dec. 8. He will verbally explain the mode of using them. He particularly wishes to have Mr. Benjamin C. Robertson to take the oath. I hope you may find Judge Brien useful, in carrying forward the work generally. I assume that anyone in military commission may administer the oaths.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

By Telegraph from Washington D. C. July 11th 1862.

HON. ANDREW JOHNSON

My dear Sir,

Yours of yesterday is received. Do you not my good friend perceive (sic) that what you ask is simply to put you in Command in the west. I do not suppose you desire this.

You only wish to Control in Your own localities, but this you must know may derange all other parts.

Can you not & *will* you not have a full conference with Maj. Gen'l H. W. Halleck. Telegraph him & meet him at such place as he & you can agree upon. I telegraph him to meet you & confer fully with you—

A. LINCOLN, President.

Executive Mansion, Washington, July 15, 1862.

HON. SEC. OF WAR

My dear Sir:

This young man—George K. Pomeroy—is the son of one of the best women I ever knew—a widow who has lost all her other chil-

dren, and has cheerfully given this one to the war, and devotes herself exclusively to nursing our sick and wounded soldiers—I wish to do something for him, and, even, to strain a point for that object—I wish you would see him, and give him a second Lieutenancy in the regular Army, in the first vacancy not already promised. He has already served nearly a year in the volunteers— This shall be your voucher.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

I would desire that in any arrangement for a general exchange of prisoners, (now about being made, as I understand) loyal men now prisoners in our hands should not be indiscriminately turned back into the power of the enemy; and, if any agent shall be deemed necessary, to make such discrimination and apply it, I doubt not Mr. Rodgers would be a suitable person for such Agency. Will the Secretary of War please consider it?

A. LINCOLN.

July 18, 1862

The following order from the President was yesterday embodied in a General Order from the office of the Adjutant General, U. S. Army and transmitted to the commanders of the different military districts:

Washington, July 22, 1862

Representations having been made to the President by the Ministers of various Foreign Powers in amity with the United States that the subjects of such powers have during the present insurrection been obliged or required by the military authorities to take an oath of general or qualified allegiance to the Government, it is the duty of all aliens residing in the United States to submit to and obey the laws, and respect the authority of the Government.

For any proceedings or conduct inconsistent with this obligation and subversive of that authority they may rightfully be subjected to military restraints when this may be necessary; but they cannot be required to take an oath of allegiance to this Government, because it conflicts with the duty they owe to their

own sovereigns. All such obligations heretofore taken are therefore remitted and annulled.

Military commanders will refrain from imposing similar obligations in future, and will in lieu thereof adapt such other restraints of the character indicated as they shall find necessary, convenient and effectual for the public safety.

It is further directed that whenever any order shall be made affecting the personal liberty of an alien, reports of the same, and of the causes thereof, shall be made to the War Department for the consideration of the Department of State.

Executive Mansion, Washington, July 23, 1862.

HON. SEC. OF WAR

Sir—

It is a question whether we shall accept the troops under the call of Governor Curtin for 9 months men & 12 months men. I understand you say it rests with me under the law. Perhaps it does; but I do not wish to decide it without your concurrence. What say you? If we do not take them after what has happened, we shall fail perhaps to get any on other terms from Pennsylvania.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 89.

War Department,
Adjutant-General's Office,
Washington, July 25, 1862.

I. The following order of the President of the United States communicates information of the death of ex-President Martin Van Buren:

Washington, July 25, 1862.

The President with deep regret announces to the people of the United States the decease, at Kinderhook, N. Y., on the 24th instant, of his honored predecessor Martin Van Buren.

This event will occasion mourning in the nation for the loss of a citizen and a public servant whose memory will be gratefully cherished. Although it has occurred at a time when his country

is afflicted with division and civil war, the grief of his patriotic friends will measurably be assuaged by the consciousness that while suffering with disease and seeing his end approaching his prayers were for the restoration of the authority of the Government of which he had been the head and for peace and good will among his fellow-citizens.

As a mark of respect for his memory, it is ordered that the Executive Mansion and the several Executive Departments, except those of War and the Navy, be immediately placed in mourning and all business be suspended during to-morrow.

It is further ordered that the War and Navy Departments cause suitable military and naval honors to be paid on this occasion to the memory of the illustrious dead.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Aug. 4., 1862

HON. SEC. OF WAR

Sir—

Please see these Texas gentlemen, and talk with them. They think if we could send 2500 or 3000 arms, in a vessel, to the vicinity of the Rio. Grande, that they can find the men there who will re-inaugurate (sic) the National Authority on the Rio Grande first, and probably on the Nuesces also. Perhaps Gen. Halleck's opinion should should (sic) be asked.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Aug. 7, 1862.

MAJ. GEN. HALLECK

Please see Gen. Casey. He considers himself aggrieved, and appeals to me for justice. But I do not know what would be justice in the case, and have not the time to inquire. Please see him.

I remember nothing of this case, but I desire that it shall be investigated and that Capt. Bourry be paid for the service he actually performed, if any. The Government cannot afford to accept services and refuse payment for them.

A. LINCOLN.

Aug. 7, 1862.

War Department,
Washington City, D. C., August 12, 1862.

GOVERNOR ANDREW,
Boston, Mass.:

Your dispatch saying "I can't get those regiments off because I can't get quick work out of the U. S. disbursing officer and the paymaster" is received. Please say to these gentlemen that if they do not work quickly I will make quick work with them. In the name of all that is reasonable, how long does it take to pay a couple of regiments? We were never more in need of the arrival of regiments than now—even to-day.

A. LINCOLN.

War Department,
Washington, D. C., August 23, 1862—8 a. m.

HON. R. YATES,
Springfield, Ill.:

I am pained to hear that you reject the service of an officer we sent to assist in organizing and getting off troops. Pennsylvania and Indiana accepted such officers kindly, and they now have more than twice as many new troops in the field as all the other States together. If Illinois had got forward as many troops as Indiana, Cumberland Gap would soon be relieved from its present peril. Please do not ruin us on *punctilio*.

A. LINCOLN.

Abraham Lincoln,
President of the United States of America.
To Her Majesty Dona Isabel II,
By the Grace of God and the Constitution
of the Spanish Monarchy, Queen of Spain,
&c., &c., &c.

GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND:

I have received the letter which Your Majesty was pleased to address to me on the 28th of May, last, announcing that the Duchess of Montpensier, Your Majesty's beloved sister, had on the 12th of the same month safely given birth to an Infante, upon whom, in sacred baptism, had been bestowed the name of Felipe Ramon Maria.

I participate in the satisfaction which this happy event has afforded to Your Majesty's Royal Family, and offer my sincere congratulations upon the occasion.

May God have Your Majesty always in His safe and holy keeping!

Your Good Friend,

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Washington, August 25, 1862.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

August 27, 1862.

COLONEL HAUPT:

What became of our forces which held the bridge till twenty minutes ago, as you say?

A. LINCOLN.

August 27, 1862.

COLONEL HAUPT

Is the railroad bridge over Bull Run destroyed?

A. LINCOLN.

War Department
August 29, 1862.

COLONEL HAUPT:

What news from direction of Manassas Junction? What generally?

A. LINCOLN.

August 30, 1862, 9 A. M.

COLONEL HAUPT:

What news?

A. LINCOLN.

August 30, 1862, 8:50 P. M.

COLONEL HAUPT:

Please send me the latest news.

A. LINCOLN.

War Department

August 31, 1862, 7:10 A. M.

COLONEL HAUPT

What news? Did you hear any firing this morning?

A. LINCOLN.

In regard to General McClellan, the President spoke with discriminating justice:—

“I do not, as some do, regard McClellan either as a traitor or an officer without capacity. He sometimes has bad counselors, but he is loyal, and he has some fine military qualities. I adhered to him after nearly all my Constitutional advisers lost faith in him. But do you want to know when I gave him up? It was after the battle of Antietam. The Blue Ridge was then between our army and Lee’s. We enjoyed the great advantage over them which they usually had over us; we had the short line, and they the long one, to the Rebel Capital. I directed McClellan peremptorily to move on Richmond. It was eleven days before he crossed his first man over the Potomac; it was eleven days after that before he crossed the last man. Thus he was twenty-two days in passing the river at a much easier and more practicable ford than that where Lee crossed his entire army between dark one night and daylight the next morning. That was the last grain of sand which broke the camel’s back. I relieved McClellan at once. As for Hooker, I have told *him* forty times that, I fear he may err just as much one way as McClellan does the other—may be as over-daring as McClellan is over-cautious.”

Inquiry was made about the progress of the Vicksburg campaign. Grant’s armies were on a long expedition up the Yazoo River, designing, by digging canals and threading bayous, to get in the rear of the city and cut off its supplies. Mr. Lincoln said:—

“Of course, men who are in command and on the spot, know a great deal more than I do. But immediately in front of Vicksburg, where the river is a mile wide, the Rebels plant batteries, which absolutely stop our entire fleets. Therefore it does seem to me that upon narrow streams like the Yazoo, Yalobusha, and Tallahatchie, not wide enough for a long boat to turn around in, if any

of our steamers which go there ever come back, there must be some mistake about it. If the enemy permits them to survive, it must be either through lack of enterprise or lack of sense."

To recruiting free negroes, no objection.

To recruiting slaves of disloyal owners, no objection.

To recruiting slaves of loyal owners, *with their consent*, no objection.

To recruiting slaves of loyal owners *without* consent, Objection, *unless the necessity is urgent*.

To conducting offensively, while recruiting, and to carrying away slaves not suitable for recruits, objection.—

I regard Gen. Banks as one of the best men in the army. He makes me no trouble, but, with a large force or a small force, he always knows his duty, and does it.

We have been only doing our duty my friends, whatever we have been able to do together. You owe me no thanks for what I have done for the country, whatever that may be,—and I owe none, to you. We cannot repay the soldiers.
(Jan. 1865)

Executive Mansion, Washington, Sept. 9, 1862.

HON. SECRETARY OF WAR.

Sir:

Father O'Hara of Syracuse, New York, coming to me well recommended by Hon. Daniel S. Dickenson, & others, as working earnestly & efficiently for our cause, with the people of his county & church, asks that his brother, Daniel O'Hara, who also has spent much time and money in the cause, may be made, a Brigadier Quarter Master, or Commissary. If such an office is needed, I should be glad for Mr. O'Hara to be appointed.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Extract from a letter from August Belmont, Esq.

Dated—Newport, R. I., Sep. 4th 1862.

. . . "I think that new vigor and energy would be infused into our military operations, and the exhausted ranks of our army would be speedily filled, if you place General Halleck at the head of the Department as Secretary of War, and appoint General McClellan Commander-in-Chief of the United States forces east of the Alleghany mountains, which would place the operations in Virginia, Washington and Maryland, under his sole control." . . .

Signed—AUGUST BELMONT.

To the President.

Executive Mansion, Sept. 11, 1862.

HON. SECRETARY OF WAR

My dear Sir

I have two long letters from Mr. Belmont, and the above extract is the only part in either, which can be construed to allude to you. I will show you the letters if you wish.

Yours as ever

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Sep. 19, 1862.

HON. SEC. OF WAR

Dear Sir

Mr. Henry G. Ward, accredited Agent for the government of China, represents to me that he purchased three hundred and thirty six barrels of powder at New-York, which he is prevented from shipping by your order. The preventing of the shipping of powder may be a military necessity with us at this time, and if so, it can be no just ground of offence to any other government, as I suppose. But should we not, in such case, tender the purchase money to the agent so that he can use it elsewhere?

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

ENDORSEMENT

About September 20, 1862

Col. Berdan's Sharp shooters, are an irregular (in a sense, an illegal) organization. Its field and staff officers have had no

Commissions. It is a good deal reduced by skirmishes, battles, and other hard service. So far as I know, there are no jealousies against it, and it is universally appreciated. I therefore propose that the Sec. of War, with the assistance of the Adjutant General, and Col. Berdan, put the Corps into the most effective form, regardless of existing regulations; and I will recommend to Congress to ratify it, giving Commissions, pay &c from the time individuals entered the service.

A. LINCOLN.

Endorsement on letter of William H. Seward:

Mr. Miller, the old gentleman concerning whom Maj. Ramsey writes the within letter, is employed, and for a long time has been, at the Arsenal— He is now implicated for disloyalty by some evidence before the Congressional Investigating Committee now in session in this City, and is in danger of discharge— I have seen him, and believe him to be loyal— Please see him, and talk with him; and if he makes the same impression upon you, administer the Oath of Allegiance to him, & give him a request to the War Department that he be allowed to retain his place.

A. LINCOLN.

HON. SEC. OF STATE.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Sep. 20, 1862.

HON. SEC. OF WAR

Dear Sir.

I know it is your purpose to send the paroled prisoners to the seat of the Indian difficulties; and I write this only to urge that this be done with all possible despatch. Gen. Wool telegraphs that including those from Harper's Ferry, there are now twenty thousand at Annapolis, requiring four good unparoled regiments to guard them. This should not be endured beyond the earliest moment possible to change it. Arm them and send them away just as fast as the Railroads will carry them. Each regiment arriving on the frontier will relieve a new regiment to come forward.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

THE PRELIMINARY PROCLAMATION ISSUED.

The victory for which the President waited came on September 17th. McClellan had followed Lee into Maryland, and defeated him. He at once finished the second draft of the Emancipation Proclamation, and called the cabinet together on Monday, September 22d. The words he spoke, as recorded by Mr. Chase, are a remarkable revelation of the man's feeling at the moment:

I have, as you are aware, thought a great deal about the relation of this war to slavery; and you all remember that, several weeks ago, I read to you an order I had prepared on this subject, which, on account of objections made by some of you, was not issued. Ever since then my mind has been much occupied with this subject, and I have thought, all along that the time for acting on it might probably come. I think the time has come now. I wish it was a better time. I wish that we were in a better condition. The action of the army against the rebels has not been quite what I should have best liked. But they have been driven out of Maryland, and Pennsylvania is no longer in danger of invasion. When the rebel army was at Frederick, I determined, as soon as it should be driven out of Maryland, to issue a proclamation of emancipation, such as I thought most likely to be useful. I said nothing to any one, but I made the promise to myself and [hesitating a little] to my Maker. The rebel army is now driven out, and I am going to fulfil that promise. I have got you together to hear what I have written down. I do not wish your advice about the main matter, for that I have determined for myself. This I say without intending anything but respect for any one of you. But I already know the views of each on this question. They have been heretofore expressed, and I have considered them as thoroughly and carefully as I can. What I have written is that which my reflections have determined me to say. If there is anything in the expressions I use, or in any minor matter, which any of you thinks had best be changed, I shall be glad to receive the suggestions. One other observation I will make. I know very well that many others might, in this matter as in others, do better than I can; and if I was satisfied that the public confidence was more fully possessed by any one of them than by me, and knew of any

constitutional way in which he could be put in my place, he should have it. I would gladly yield it to him. But, though I believe that I have not so much of the confidence of the people as I had some time since, I do not know that, all things considered, any other person has more; and, however this may be, there is no way in which I can have any other man put where I am. I am here; I must do the best I can, and bear the responsibility of taking the course which I feel I ought to take.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Sept. 25, 1862.

JOHN ROSS

Principal Chief of the
Cherokee Nation.

Sir,

Your letter of the 16th Inst. was received two days ago. In the multitude of cares claiming my constant attention I have been unable to examine and determine the exact treaty relations between the United States and the Cherokee Nation. Neither have I been able to investigate and determine the exact state of facts claimed by you as constituting a failure of treaty obligation on our part, excusing the Cherokee Nation for making a treaty with a portion of the people of the United States in open rebellion against the government thereof. This letter therefore, must not be understood to decide anything upon these questions. I shall, however, cause a careful investigation of them to be made. Meanwhile the Cherokee people remaining practically loyal to the federal Union will receive all the protection which can be given them consistently with the duty of the government to the whole country. I sincerely hope the Cherokee country may not again be over-run by the enemy; and I shall do all I consistently can to prevent it.

Your Obt. Servt.

A. LINCOLN.

Endorsement:

I will see Mr. Ross at 9 A. M. to-morrow, if he calls.

A. LINCOLN.

Sep. 11, 1862

Sept. 29, 1862.

S. PECK:

It seems by the within that there is danger of the different religious denominations having some collision in their ministering among the colored people about Port Royal, and perhaps elsewhere. I should think each church should minister according to its own rules, without interference by others differing from them; and if there still be difficulties about places of worship a real Christian charity and forbearance on the part of all might obviate it. With these views I submit the subject to the Secretary of War.

A. LINCOLN.

October 10, 1862.

The organization attempted by Mr. Boswell, makes a place for people in that region inclined our way, to go; and, in that respect is important. While it is proper that a corps of Northern men should not be raised & be called Mississippians, still I see no objection to Alabamians, and even persons from other Southern states, found in Mississippi, joining the organization. Suppose the Sec. of War modifies his order so as to admit of this; and also providing that when enough for a regiment are obtained they shall go into the service at once, not waiting for the completion of a Brigade—nevertheless Mr. Boswell proceeding to get the materials for a Brigade, if practicable. One man there is worth two here in this, that it adds one to us, and takes one from the enemy; and for which advantage we can afford to endure a little extra trouble and perplexity.

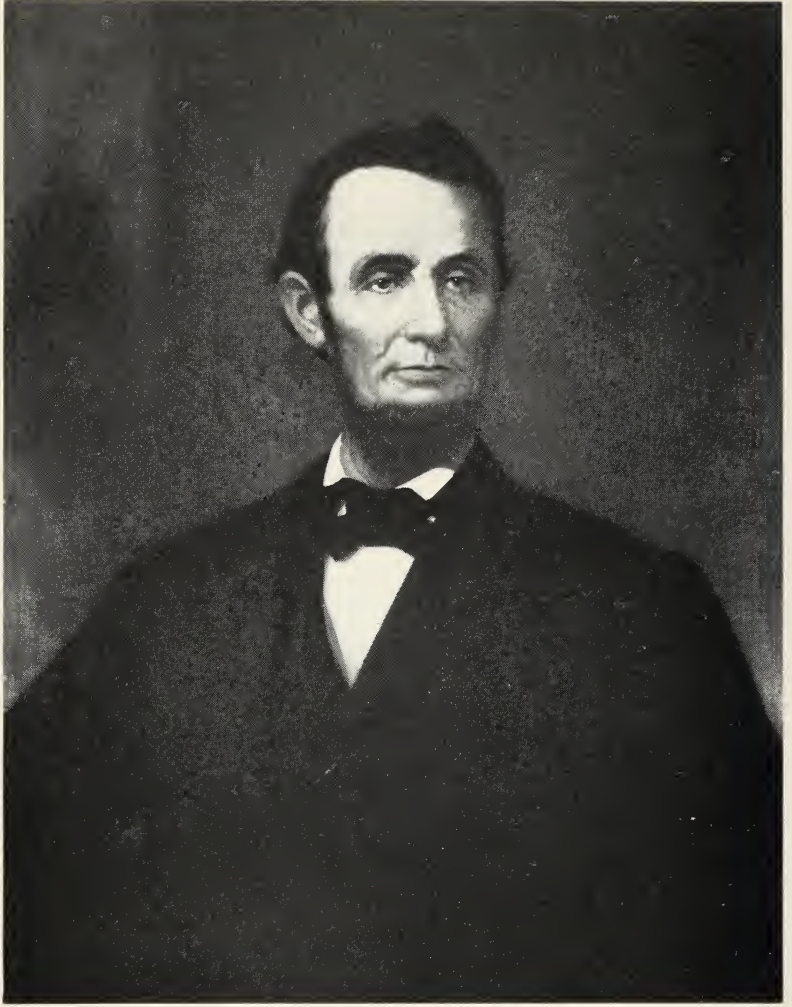
A. LINCOLN.

In one corner of this document is the following curt notation in Stanton's handwriting: "Boswells Case. Oct. 11. The Secretary of War refuses to extend Boswells authority."

NOTICE TO ALIENS

Executive Mansion, Washington, Oct. 20, 1862

It is hereby ordered that all persons who may have actually been drafted into the militia service of the United States, and who may claim exemption on account of alienage, will take ap-



Portrait by Samuel B. Waugh

plication therefor directly to the Department of State, or their respective Ministers or Consuls.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, October 21, 1862.

MAJ. GEN. U. S. GRANT:

The bearer of this, Thomas R. Smith, a citizen of Tennessee, goes to that State seeking to have such of the people thereof as desire to avoid the unsatisfactory prospect before them, and to have peace again upon the old terms, under the Constitution of the United States, to manifest such desire by elections of members to the Congress of the United States particularly, and perhaps a Legislature, State officers, and a U. S. Senator friendly to their object.

I shall be glad for you and each of you to aid him, and all others acting for this object, as much as possible. In all available ways give the people a show to express their wishes at these elections.

Follow law, and forms of law, as far as convenient, but at all events get the expression of the largest number of the people possible. All see how such action will connect with and affect the proclamation of September 22. Of course the men elected should be gentlemen of character, willing to swear support to the Constitution as of old, and known to be above reasonable suspicion of duplicity.

Yours, very respectfully,

A. LINCOLN.

(The above was addressed as follows: Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant, Governor Johnson, and all having military, naval, and civil authority under the United States, within the State of Tennessee.)

October 25, 1862.

Waiving the question of jurisdiction in the case, the sentence is not approved, because the accused is not shown to have been within our lines in disguise, or by false practice, except by hearsay testimony; and because in his admission that he was a "spy," he may not have understood the technical term, and may have meant no more than he was a scout of the enemy. He clearly is a prisoner of war.

A. LINCOLN.

October 25, 1862.

The prisoner's offense in this case, being to some extent the result of sudden passion, and not of premeditation, the sentence of death is mitigated to imprisonment for one year, commencing on this day, and to be dishonorably discharged the service, with loss of pay and emoluments.

A. LINCOLN.

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 170.

War Department,
Adjutant General's Office,
Washington, October 28, 1862.

I, In accordance with the 5th section of the Act approved July 17, 1862, the proceedings of the Military Commission, in the case of *Sely Lewis*, have been submitted to the President of the United States.

II, The following order promulgates the proceedings in the case:

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 75.

Headquarters Fifth Division,
Army of the Tennessee,
Memphis, August 26, 1862.

Before a Military Commission assembled in Memphis, July 28, pursuant to General Orders, No. 63, dated Memphis, July 26, 1862, of which Col. W. H. H. TAYLOR was President, were arraigned and tried:

* * * * *

24. *Sely Lewis*, a citizen.

CHARGE 1st.—“*Smuggling goods through the lines.*”

Specification—“In this; that the said *Sely Lewis* did, on or about the 18th day of August, 1862, engage one ——— to haul one trunk, one carpet-bag, and one basket, containing boots, snuff, chloroform, and morphine, through the lines, against the order of the General Commanding U. S. Forces at Memphis, Tenn.”

CHARGE 2d.—“*Violation of the 57th Article of War.*”

Specification—“In this; that the said *Sely Lewis* did, on or about the 18th day of August, 1862, pass through the lines of the

U. S. Forces at Memphis, with the intention of visiting the enemy and giving them information. All this at or near the city of Memphis."

To which the prisoner, Sely Lewis, pleaded—

To the 1st CHARGE, "Not Guilty."

To the 2d CHARGE, "Not Guilty."

Of the *Specifications*, "Not Guilty."

After a careful examination of the testimony in the above case, and after mature deliberation, the Commission are satisfied that the prisoner is,

Of *Specification*, 1st CHARGE, "Guilty."

Of 1st CHARGE, "Guilty."

Of *Specification*, 2d CHARGE, "Guilty."

Of 2d CHARGE, "Guilty."

And the Commission are convinced that the prisoner is a Spy.

And therefore unanimously recommend that the Prisoner "*be hanged as a Spy, until he is dead, at such time and place as the Commanding Officer shall direct.*"

* * * * *

In case 24, of *Sely Lewis*, a citizen, convicted of being a Spy, the execution of the sentence will be suspended until the pleasure of the President be made known, according to law. In the meantime he will be carefully guarded, and all communication with him, except in the presence of an officer, be denied him.

BY ORDER OF MAJOR GENERAL W. T. SHERMAN:

J. H. HAMMOND,

A. A. Genl.

III. The following is the order of the President:

So far as the sentence in the case relates to the accused as a Spy, it is disapproved, the Commission not having jurisdiction of the offense. The sentence of death is mitigated to imprisonment for the term of six months, commencing this day—October 25, 1862.

A. LINCOLN.

Nov., 1862.

"The Army is constantly depleted by company officers who give their men leave of absence in the very face of the enemy, and on the eve of an engagement, which is almost as bad as desertion. At this very moment there are between seventy and one hundred thousand men absent on furlough from the Army of the Potomac. The army, like the nation, has become demoralized by the idea that the war is to be ended, the nation united, and peace restored, by *strategy*, and not by hard desperate fighting. Why, then, should not the soldiers have furloughs?"

Executive Mansion, Washington, Nov. 6th '62.

MAJ. GENL. BUTLER,

My dear Sir: This morning the Secretary of the Treasury read to me a letter of yours to him. He read to me at the same time one from Mr. Denison (I think), at New Orleans. I was much interested by the information in one of them that some of the planters were making arrangements with their negroes to pay them wages. Please write to me to what extent, so far as you know, this is being done. Also what, if anything, is being done by Mr. Boulogny, or others, about electing members of Congress. I am anxious to hear on both these points.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

(Telegram)

November 9, 1862.

Mrs. Cuthbert and Aunt Mary want to move to the White House because it has grown so cold at Soldiers' Home. Shall they?

A. LINCOLN.

Private.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Nov. 19, 1862.

JUDGE S. TREAT,

St. Louis, Mo.

My dear sir:

Your very patriotic and judicious letter, addressed to Judge Davis, in relation to the Mississippi, has been left with me for

perusal. You do not estimate the value of the object you press more highly than it is estimated here. It is now the object of particular attention. It has not been neglected, as you seem to think, because the West was divided into different military districts. The cause is much deeper. The country will not allow us to send our whole western force down the Mississippi, while the enemy sacks Louisville and Cincinnati. Probably it would be better if the country would allow this, but it will not. I confidently believed last September that we could end the war by allowing the enemy to go to Harrisburg and Philadelphia, only that we could not keep down mutiny, and utter demoralization among the Pennsylvanians. And this, though unhandy sometimes, is not at all strange. I presume if an army was starting to-day for New Orleans, and you confidently believed that St. Louis would be sacked in consequence, you would be in favor of stopping such army.

We are compelled to watch all these things.

With great respect

Your obt. servant,

A. LINCOLN.

I decline to sign the within, because it does not state the thing quite to my liking— The colored man William Johnson came with me from Illinois, and I would be glad for him to be obliged, if he can be consistently with the public service; but I can not make an order about it, nor a request which might, in some sort, be construed as an order.

A. LINCOLN.

Dec. 17, 1862

Executive Mansion, Washington, December 26, 1862.

HONORABLE SECRETARY OF WAR.

Sir: Two Ohio regiments and one Illinois regiment (which) were captured at Hartsville have been paroled and are now at Columbus, Ohio. This brings the Ohio regiments substantially to their homes. I am strongly impressed with the belief that the Illinois regiment better be sent to Illinois where it will be recruited and put in good condition by the time they are exchanged so as to re-enter the service. They did not misbehave as I am satisfied,

so that they should receive no treatment nor have anything withheld from them by way of punishment.

Yours, truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Some time in 1863.

Excerpt from letter of Lincoln to David R. Locke.

Why don't you come to Washington and see me? Is there no place you want? Come on and I will give you any place you ask for—that you are capable of filling—and fit to fill.

On a paper presented by a tearful mother in behalf of her imprisoned son he wrote:

Let this woman have her boy out of Old Capitol Prison.

A. LINCOLN.

January 3, 1863.

Washington, January 12, 1863.

HON. SECRETARY OF WAR.

I intended proposing to you this morning, and forgot it, that Schurz and Stahl should both be Maj. Genls., Schurz to take Sigel's old corps, and Stahl to command cavalry. They, together with Sigel, are our sincere friends; and while so much may seem rather large, any thing less is too small— I think it better be done.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, February 24, 1863.

MAJOR GEN. HALLECK

Dear Sir:

This morning the West-Virginia delegation call and say that the enemy contemplate invading & over-running them, in the early Spring; and that, for this object, among other things they are building a plank-road from Staunton to Beverly— To meet this our friends are anxious, first, that the 7 Virginia Infantry, and the 1st Virginia Cavalry both now under Gen. Hooker, may be

sent back to West-Virginia— These regiments are greatly reduced, ours having not more than one hundred and sixteen men. Secondly, they desire that, if, possible, a larger portion of their force in West-Virginia, should be mounted, in order to meet the increasing . . . with which they are annoyed & threatened.

Can these things, or some of them, be done?

Yours truly
A. LINCOLN.

Cypher

Executive Mansion, Washington, March 20, 1863.

MAJOR GEN. HURLBUT

Memphis, Tenn.

What news have you? What from Vicksburg, What from Yazoo Pass? What from Lake Providence? What generally?

A. LINCOLN.

In the spring of 1863 an appeal involving patronage was made to the President. Mr. Lincoln replied:

“In answer to the within question ‘Shall we be sustained by you?’ I have to answer that at the beginning of the Administration I appointed one whom I understood to be an editor of the ‘Democrat’ to be postmaster at St. Louis—the best office in my gift within Missouri. Soon after this, our friends at St. Louis must needs break into factions, the Democrat being, in my opinion, justly chargeable with a full share of the blame for it. I have stoutly tried to keep out of the quarrel, and so mean to do.”

President Lincoln continued to preserve strict neutrality between the Missouri factions. Judge S. P. McCurdy, of this State, was a candidate for an appointment. The President, with his own hand, indorsed Judge McCurdy’s application:

“This is a good recommendation for a territorial judgeship, embracing both sides in Missouri and many other respectable gentlemen.

A. LINCOLN.”

On this general subject I respectfully refer Mr. — to the secretaries of war and navy for conference and consultation. I have a single idea of my own about harbor defense. It is a steam ram, built so as to sacrifice nearly all capacity for carrying to those of speed and strength, so as to be able to split any vessel having hollow enough in her to carry supplies for a voyage of any distance. Such ram of course could not herself carry supplies for a voyage of considerable distance, and her business would be to guard a particular harbor as a bull dog guards his master's door.

A. LINCOLN.

April 4, 1863.

Falmouth, April 8, 1863.

HON. SEC. OF NAVY

I have Richmond papers of the 7th. They contain nothing of interest to us except a dispatch as follows—

“Charleston, April 5th.

Important movements are taking place here, but for military reasons no particulars can yet be telegraphed.” And an editorial in these words— “On yesterday morning eight monitors and iron-clads were off the bar at Charleston. This brief, but significant telegram, which we received early in the day tells the work. The storm so long prepared for Charleston has burst at last. We await the issue with buoyant hope but not without the solicitude due so important a struggle. May Heaven shield Charleston from all the rage of her enemies and ours.”

A. LINCOLN.

United States Military Telegraph,
War Department.
Head Qrs. A of Potomac
April 9th 1863.

HON. GIDEON WELLES

Secy of the Navy.

Richmond “Whig” of the 8th has no telegraphic dispatches from Charleston but has the following as editorial.

“All thoughts are now centred upon Charleston. Official intelli-

gence was made public early yesterday morning that the Enemy's Iron Clads fleet had attempted to cross the Bar and failed but later in the day it was announced that the Gun Boats and transports had succeeded in crossing and were at anchor— Our Iron Clads lay between the forts quietly awaiting the attack. Further intelligence is looked for with eager anxiety. The Yankees have made no secret of their vast preparations for an attack on Charleston and we may well anticipate a desperate conflict. At last the hour of trial has come for Charleston. The hour of deliverance or destruction, for no one believes the other alternative possible. The heart of the whole country yearns towards the beleaguered city with intense solicitude yet with hopes amounting to confidence. Charleston knows what is expected of her and what is due to her fame and to the relation she sustains to the cause. The devoted, the heroic, the great hearted Beauregard is there and he too knows what is expected of him and will not disappoint that expectation. We predict a Sawagassa defence and that if Charleston is taken that it will be only a heap of ruin."

The rebel pickets are reported as calling over to our pickets today that we had taken some Rebel fort. This is not very intelligible and I think is entirely unreliable.

A. LINCOLN.

Written by Lincoln for John Bright and sent through Sumner.

Whereas, while *heretofore*, States, and Nations, have tolerated slavery, *recently*, for the first in the world, an attempt has been made to construct a new Nation, upon the basis of, and with, the primary, and fundamental object to maintain, enlarge, and perpetuate human slavery, therefore,

Resolved, That no such embryo States should ever be recognized by, or admitted into, the family of Christian and civilized nations; and that all Christian and civilized men everywhere should, by all lawful means, resist to the utmost, such recognition or admission—

Extract from a letter from the Honble. Chas. Sumner, dated Washington April 17th 1863

Two days ago the President sent for me to come to him at once. When I arrived, he said that he had been thinking of a matter on which we had often spoken, the way in which English opinion should be directed, & that he had drawn up a resolution embodying the ideas which he should hope to see adopted by public meetings in England. I inclose the resolution, in his autograph, as he gave it to me. He thought it might serve to suggest the point which he regarded as important.

JOHN BRIGHT.

April 19, 1868.

May 4, 1863.

Lincoln wrote this endorsement on the back of a telegram from Rufus Ingalls, Chief Quartermaster, to Col. D. H. Rucker. The wire, sent from United States Ford on May 4 at 5:10 P. M., read, "Ship no more horses or other stores until further notice. Please advise Capt. Stoddard & Ferguson (Quarter Masters at Alexandria). My reasons are good."

1. It appears Ingalls is not with Hooker, and therefore may not be acting under his special direction.

2. He may consider it a proper precaution, in view of what he knows is going on at Fredericksburg.

3. He may not know that we know about Fredericksburg, and, to keep it from us, may say "My reasons are good"

A. LINCOLN.

Abraham Lincoln

President of the United States of America.

To Her Majesty Victoria,

Queen of the United Kingdom

of Great Britain and Ireland.

&c &c. &c. Sendeth Greeting:

GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND:

I have received the letter which Your Majesty addressed to me on the 31st day of March last, announcing the pleasing intelligence of the Marriage on the 10th of that month of Your Majesty's dearly beloved son His Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Duke of Saxony, Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha &c. &c. with Her Royal Highness the Princess Alexandra

Caroline Maria Charlotte Louisa Julia, eldest Daughter of His Royal Highness the Prince Christian of Denmark. Feeling a lively interest in whatever concerns the Welfare and happiness of Your Majesty's illustrious House, I pray Your Majesty to receive my cordial congratulations on this auspicious event, and my fervent Wishes that it may signally promote your own happiness and that of the Prince your son and his young spouse. And so I recommend Your Majesty and Your Majesty's Royal Family to the protection of the Almighty.

Written at Washington, the 18th day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

Your Good Friend,
ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President
WILLIAM H. SEWARD
Secretary of State.

I hereby authorize and direct the Secretary of State to affix the Seal of the United States to the envelope of a letter addressed to Queen Victoria, in answer to one received from Her Majesty announcing the marriage of the Prince of Wales with the Princess Alexandra, of Denmark, dated this day, and signed by me, and for so doing this shall be his warrant.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Washington, 18th May, 1863.

Executive Mansion, Washington, May 20, 1863.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:—

Whereas, it appears to my satisfaction that Thomas W. Knox, a correspondent of the New York Herald, has been, by the sentence of a court-martial, excluded from the military department under command of Major-General Grant, and also that General Thayer, president of the court-martial which rendered the sentence, and Major-General McClernand, in command of a corps of that department, and many other respectable persons, are of opinion that Mr. Knox's offense was technical rather than willfully wrong, and that the sentence should be revoked; now therefore said sentence is hereby so far revoked as to allow Mr.

Knox to return to General Grant's head-quarters, and to remain if General Grant shall not refuse such assent.

A. LINCOLN.

War Department, Washington City, May 21, 1863.

MAJOR-GENERAL BURNSIDE, Cincinnati, Ohio:

In the case of Thomas M. Campbell, convicted as a spy, let execution of the sentence be respited until further order from me, he remaining in custody meanwhile.

A. LINCOLN.

Apròpos of greenbacks, Don Piatt gave a description in the "North American Review," a few years ago, of the first proposition to Mr. Lincoln to issue interest-bearing notes as currency, which was as follows:—

"Amasa Walker, a distinguished financier of New England, suggested that notes issued directly from the government to the people, as currency, should bear interest. This for the purpose, not only of making the notes popular, but for the purpose of preventing inflation, by inducing people to hoard the notes as an investment when the demands of trade would fail to call them into circulation as a currency.

"This idea struck David Taylor, of Ohio, with such force that he sought Mr. Lincoln and urged him to put the project into immediate execution. The President listened patiently, and at the end said, 'That is a good idea, Taylor; but you must go to Chase. He is running that end of the machine, and has time to consider your proposition.' Taylor sought the Secretary of the Treasury, and laid before him Amasa Walker's plan. Chase heard him through in a cold, unpleasant manner, and then said: 'That is all very well, Mr. Taylor; but there is one little obstacle in the way that makes the plan impracticable, and that is the Constitution.' Saying this, he turned to his desk, as if dismissing both Mr. Taylor and his proposition at the same moment.

"The poor enthusiast felt rebuked and humiliated. He returned to the President, however, and reported his defeat. Mr. Lincoln looked at the would-be financier with the expression at times so peculiar to his homely face, that left one in doubt whether he was jesting or in earnest. 'Taylor!' he exclaimed, 'go back to Chase

and tell him not to bother himself about the Constitution. Say that I have that sacred instrument here at the White House, and I am guarding it with great care.' Taylor demurred to this, on the ground that Mr. Chase showed by his manner that he knew all about it, and didn't wish to be bored by any suggestion. 'We'll see about that,' said the President, and taking a card from the table he wrote upon it, 'The Secretary of the Treasury will please consider Mr. Taylor's proposition. We must have money, and I think this a good way to get it.—A. LINCOLN.'

"Armed with this, the real father of the greenbacks again sought the Secretary. He was received more politely than before, but was cut short in his advocacy of the measure by a proposition for both of them to see the President. They did so, and Mr. Chase made a long and elaborate constitutional argument against the proposed measure.

"'Chase,' said Mr. Lincoln, after the Secretary had concluded, 'down in Illinois I was held to be a pretty good lawyer, and I believe I could answer every point you have made; but I don't feel called upon to do it. . . . These rebels are violating the Constitution to destroy the Union; I will violate the Constitution, if necessary, to save the Union: and I suspect, Chase, that our Constitution is going to have a rough time of it before we get done with this row. Now, what I want to know is, whether, Constitution aside, this project of issuing interest-bearing notes is a good one?'

"'I must say,' responded Mr. Chase, 'that, with the exception you make, it is not only a good one, but the only one open to us to raise money. If you say so, I will do my best to put it into immediate and practical operation, and you will never hear from me any opposition on this subject.'"

To Doctor Sunderland, chaplain of the Senate, a few days before the Emancipation Proclamation was issued.

Doctor, if it had been left to you and me, there would have been no war. If it had been left to you and me, there would have been no cause for this war; but it was not left to us. God has allowed men to make slaves of their fellows. He permits this war. He has before him a strange spectacle. We, on our side, are praying him to give us victory, because we believe we are right; but those on

the other side pray him, too, for victory, believing they are right. What must he think of us? And what is coming from the struggle? What will be the effect of it all on the whites and on the negroes? As for the negroes, Doctor, and what is to become of them, I told Ben Wade the other day that it made me think of a story I read in one of my first books, "Æsop's Fables." It was an old edition, and had curious, rough wood-cuts, one of which showed four white men scrubbing a negro in a potash kettle filled with cold water. The text explained that the men thought that by scrubbing the negro they might make him white. Just about the time they thought they were succeeding, he took cold and died. Now, I am afraid that by the time we get through this war the negro will catch cold and die.

War Department,
Washington, D. C., June 4, 1863.

MAJOR-GENERAL BUTTERFIELD:

The news you send me from the Richmond Sentinel of the 3d must be greatly if not wholly incorrect. The Thursday mentioned was the 28th, and we have dispatches here directly from Vicksburg of the 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st, and while they speak of the siege progressing, they speak of no assault or general fighting whatever, and in fact they so speak as to almost exclude the idea that there can have been any since Monday the 25th, which was not very heavy. Neither do they mention any demand made by Grant upon Pemberton for a surrender. They speak of our troops as being in good health, condition and spirits. Some of them do say that Banks has Port Hudson invested.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, July 2, 1863.

HON. SEC. OF WAR

My dear Sir:

I wish you would allow the Republican (my paper as you jokingly call it) to be paid for advertising. The non-payment is made a source of trouble to me.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

To a delegation of 1812 veterans headed by Col. W. W. Seaton, president of their association, President Lincoln said:

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN: I am indeed very grateful for this courtesy which you have thought fit to extend me for the time being, the head of the Government. I am exceedingly sorry that the continued and intense engrossment of my attention by other matters has not permitted me to devote a moment's thought to the manner in which I should receive you. I have no pretty speech, or any other sort of speech prepared, with which to entertain you for a single moment. I am grateful to you for the approbation which you give me of what I have done and grateful for the support which the whole country gives to me. I hope that, although far advanced in life as many of you are, you will, gentlemen, yet live to see better days than those which it is now our misfortune to behold. Thanking you for the support which you in this manner give me, unprepared as I am, I could not with any degree of entertainment detain you longer.

At White House July 4, 1863.

(Cypher)

War Department, Washington, D. C., July 5, 1863.

MAJOR-GENERAL FRENCH, Frederick Town, Md.:

I see your dispatch about destruction of pontoons. Cannot the enemy ford the river?

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, July 5, 1863.

MAJOR-GENERAL CURTIS.

My Dear Sir:—I am having a good deal of trouble with Missouri matters, and I now sit down to write you particularly about it. One class of friends believe in greater severity, and another in greater leniency in regard to arrests, banishments and assessments.

As usual in such cases, each questions the other's motives. On the one hand, it is insisted that Governor Gamble's unionism at most, is not better than a secondary spring of action; that hunkerism and a wish for political influence stand before unionism with him. On the other hand, it is urged that arrests, banishments,

and assessments, are made more for private malice, revenge, and pecuniary interest than for the public good.

This morning I was told by a gentleman, who I have no doubt believes what he says, that in one case of assessments for \$10,000, the different persons who paid, compared receipts, and found they had paid \$30,000. If this be true, the inference is that the collecting agents pocketed the odd \$20,000.

And true or not in this instance, nothing but the sternest necessity can justify the making and maintaining of a system so liable to such abuses. Doubtless the necessity for the making of the system in Missouri did exist, and whether it continues for the maintenance of it is now a practical and very important question.

Some days ago Governor Gamble telegraphed me, asking that the assessments outside of St. Louis county might be suspended, as they already have been within it, and this morning all the members of Congress here from Missouri but one laid a paper before me asking the same thing. Now, my belief is that Governor Gamble is an honest and true man, not less so than yourself; that you and he could confer together on this and other Missouri questions, with great advantage to the public; that each knows something which the other does not, and that acting together you could about double your stock of pertinent information. May I not hope that you and he will attempt this? I could at once safely do (or you could safely do without me) whatever you and he agree upon. There is absolutely no reason why you should not agree.

Yours, as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

P.S. I forgot to say that Hon. James S. Rollins, member of Congress from one of the Missouri districts, wishes that, upon his personal responsibility, Rev. John M. Robinson, of Columbia, Mo., James L. Mathews, of Boone county, Missouri, and James L. Stevens, also of Boone county, Missouri, may be allowed to return to their respective homes. Major Rollins leaves with me very strong papers from the neighbors of these men, whom he says he knows to be true men. He also says he has many constituents who he thinks are rightly exiled, but that he thinks these three should be allowed to return.

For Collector
 Post Master
 Surveyor
 Naval officer
 Marshal
 District attorney
 Navy Agent
 Appraiser
 "
 "

Edwin H. Webster, [✓]
 Bal. Air, Harford Cr., Md.
 Genl Andrew W. Demeson
 Baltimore, Md.
 Edington Talbot,
 Baltimore, Md.
 Samuel M. Evans
 Baltimore, Md.
 James W. Clayton
 Baltimore, Md.
 Wm J. Jones
 Ecktown, Cecil County, Md.
 Doctr Thomas King Carroll
 Cambridge, Md.
 Robert S. Proud
 Baltimore, Md.
 Thomas A. Smith
 Urbana, Frederick Co.
 Ephraim F. Anderson
 Hagerstown, Washington
 Co., Md.

Gov. Shann & Senators hereinafter present
 the above to day, which they ^{are} on a plan suggest-
 ed by me.

A.S.

April 14, 1865.

List of Appointments Agreed upon at the Last Conference

I respectfully ask that the within named
 Ben^g F. Smiley be discharged on the usual terms
 Nathl. Creswell

Let it be done.

A. Lincoln

April 14, 1865

The Last Pardon

Please look into the case, and oblige Major Rollins, if you consistently can.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Letter written by President Lincoln six days after the battle of Gettysburg to Gen. Sickles, who was at this time lying in hospital, having lost a leg in the battle.

Washington, July 10, 1863.

MY DEAR GENERAL,

I understand you are troubled with some report that the 3rd Corps has sustained a disaster, or repulse. I can only say that I have watched closely, and believe I have seen all the despatches at the Military Telegraph Office up to a half hour ago, one from Ingalls, with the Army, reaching here since this morning, and I have heard of no such disaster or repulse. I add that I do not believe there has been any such.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

MAJ. GEN. SICKLES.

Executive Mansion, Washington, July 11, 1863.

HON. SECRETARY OF WAR.

Please allow the bearer Mr. D. M. Leatherman, to take with him from the prison at Alton, Ill., his brother, J. A. Leatherman to his home at Memphis, Tenn. upon the honor of both that he will remain at Memphis, until further permission to leave. The latter resides near Murfreesboro, and was arrested and sent away by Gen. Rosecrans police for disloyalty. He has not been in the army— His brother who will take charge of him, is abundantly vouched as a Union man and honorable gentleman, by Gen. Hurlbut and many others.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

July 13, 1863 (?)

GENERAL SCHENCK—

Get Milroy from Winchester to Harper's Ferry if possible. He will be "gobbled up" if he remains, if he is not already past salvation.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington (July 15), 1863.

MAJ. GEN. (C. W.) SANFORD.

Whereas, by reason of unlawful combinations against the authority of the Government of the United States, it has become impracticable in my judgment to enforce, by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, the laws of the United States, . . . therefore I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do call forth yourself and your command, as part of the Militia of the State of New York, to aid in suppressing said combinations and opposition to said laws; . . .

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

To the Postmaster-General, July 27, 1863.

Yesterday little endorsements of mine went to you in two cases of postmasterships, sought for widows whose husbands have fallen in the battles of this war. These cases, occurring on the same day, brought me to reflect more attentively than what I had before done as to what is fairly due from us here in the dispensing of patronage toward the men who, by fighting our battles, bear the chief burden of saving our country. My conclusion is that, other claims and qualifications being equal, they have the right, and this is especially applicable to the disabled soldier and the deceased soldier's family.

LETTER TO GOVERNOR SEYMOUR, JULY, 1863.

I do not object to abide the decision of the United States Supreme Court, or of the judges thereof, on the constitutionality of the draft law. In fact, I should be willing to facilitate the obtaining of it. But I can not consent to lose the time while it is being obtained. We are contending with an enemy who, as I understand, drives every able bodied man he can reach into his ranks, very much as a butcher drives bullocks into a slaughter pen. No time is wasted, no argument is used. This produces an army which will soon turn upon our now victorious soldiers already in the field, if they shall not be sustained by recruits as they should be. It produces an army with a rapidity not to be matched on our side, if we first waste time to re-experiment with

a volunteer system, already deemed by Congress, and palpably, in fact, so far exhausted as to be inadequate; and then more time to obtain a court decision, as to whether a law is constitutional which requires a part of those not now in service to go to the aid of those who are already in it; and still more time to determine with absolute certainty that we get those who are to go in the precisely legal proportion to those who are not to go. My purpose is to be in my action just and constitutional, and yet practical in performing the important duty with which I am charged, of maintaining the unity and the free principles of our common country.

A. LINCOLN.

New York, July 28, 1863.

MRS. A. LINCOLN, New York:

Bob went to Fort Monroe and only got back to-day. Will start to you at 11 a. m. to-morrow. All well.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, July 29, 1863.

MAJOR GENERAL HALLECK

Seeing General Meade's dispatch of yesterday to yourself, causes me to fear that he supposes the government here is demanding of him to bring on a general engagement with Lee as soon as possible. I am claiming no such thing of him. In fact, my judgement is against it, which judgement, of course, I will yield if yours and his are the contrary. If he could not safely engage Lee at Williamsport, it seems absurd to suppose he can safely engage him now, when he has scarcely more than two-thirds of the force he had at Williamsport, while it must be that Lee has been reinforced. True, I desired Gen. Meade to pursue Lee across the Potomac, hoping, as has proved true, that he would thereby clear the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and get some advantage by harassing him on his retreat. These being past I am unwilling he should now get into a general engagement on the impression that we here are pressing him and I shall be glad for you to so inform him, unless your own judgement is against it.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, August 1, 1863

HON. HIRAM BARNEY

My dear Sir

The bearer of this tells me he resides in your City, and has so resided for many years; that he has served for us in this war three months; that he has a son now a Colonel in the service under Gen. Corcoran, which son has served ever since the commencement of the war; that he also has a brother & a first cousin in the war. His name is Patrick Murphy, and he now seeks employment in the Custom House. I shall be glad if you can find it for him.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, August 1863.

GEN. GEORGE STONEMAN.

I am appealed to in behalf of E. S. Doty, Co. A, 1st Vermont Cavalry, whose friends do not know where he is, but fear he has been executed, or is under sentence of death, somewhere, as a deserter. Records in these cases do not necessarily come, and in this case none is here. Please ascertain, and inform me if you can, how the case stands.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

The within recommendations seem ample; but as they do not allude to the reason of Major Hoyt's rejection by the Senate, they do not cover the whole ground. If any Senator will say to me in writing that he fully understands what caused his rejection, & that things are so changed that he now believes Major Hoyt would be confirmed, I should be disposed to re-nominate him & would do so if the service should then be in need of additional forces in the Pay Master Department.

A. LINCOLN.

August 4, 1863.

Executive Mansion, Aug. 10, 1863

Permit me to return my grateful acknowledgements to the fair manufacturer and generous donors of the beautiful present which

accompanies their note of the 20th July. If anything could enhance to me the value of this representation of our national ensign, so elegantly executed and so gracefully bestowed, it would be the consideration that its price has been devoted to the comfort and restoration of those heroic men who have suffered and bled in our flag's defense. We never should, and I am sure, never shall be niggard of gratitude and benefaction to the soldiers who have endured toil, privations and wounds, that the nation may live.

Yours very truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, August 15, 1863.

MY DEAR GENERAL ANDERSON:

I have been through the War Department this morning looking up your case. Section 20 of "An act providing for the better organization of the military establishment" approved August 3, 1861, seems to leave no discretion to President, secretary of war, general in chief, or any one else.

The general in chief, however says that, if agreeable to you, he will give you command of Fort Adams (I think) at New Port, R. I. by which your pay will be the same as if the law did not exist. I advise you to try it, at all events. General Halleck says it will require substantially no labor or thought, whatever. Please telegraph whether you conclude to try it.

And now my dear General allow me to assure you that we here are all your sincere friends.

Very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Delivered per Mrs. General Anderson.

War Department,
Washington, D. C., August 15, 1863.

MAJOR-GENERAL FOSTER, Fort Monroe, Va.:

I think you are right in placing "little reliance in the report," still the question is so interesting that I would like to know if the captain of the *Hudson* gave any particulars how he got his news and the like. Please answer.

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, D. C., August 17, 1863.

GENERAL W. K. STRONG, Saint Louis, Mo.:

Please send me a transcript of the record in the case McQuin and Bell, under sentence of death by a commission of which you were the head.

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, D. C., August 17, 1863.

GOVERNOR JOHNSON, Nashville, Tenn.:

The appointment of Colonel Gillam to be a brigadier-general has been ordered.

A. LINCOLN.

Sec. of Treasury, please see this Lady who says she is wife of a preacher who is in the war as a Captain in the 126th N. Y. She wants employment.

Aug. 18. 1863

A. LINCOLN.

Governors of the loyal States met in the White House for consultation with the President.

"Gentlemen," said the President, "the machinery of the nation is out of order. We must run it as we find it. Its intelligent wheels, its rods, its belts, are separated, but the boiler seems to be perfect. We must repair the work with such skill and ingenuity as we possess. There is wisdom in council, and therefore I have called you that we may reason together. What shall we do to crush out this foul Rebellion and preserve the country from wreck? I have made up my mind, with implicit confidence in an overruling, Providence, to meet all emergencies that may arise. It is time for work. What shall I do about issuing a Proclamation to the people?"

(Then turning to Curtin)

"Andy, what will Pennsylvania do if I issue my proclamation?"

"What will Pennsylvania do? Why, sir, (with emphasis,) if you issue your proclamation, Pennsylvania will furnish you a hundred thousand men in a week."

"Give me your hand, Andy," said the President, grasping it,

and then throwing his arms around him he ejaculated: "Thank God for that noble reply. I will at once issue my proclamation."

Washington, D. C., August 21, 1863

MRS. MARGARET PRESTON

Lexington, Kentucky.

Your dispatch to Mrs. L. received yesterday. She is not well. Owing to her early and strong friendship for you I would gladly oblige you, but I cannot absolutely do it. If General Bogle and Hon. James Guthrie one or both in their discretion see fit to give you the passes, this is my authority to them for doing so.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Sept. 5, 1863.

Q. M. GENERAL,

My dear Sir:

This introduces C. Vanderbilt, Jr., son of the Commodore. He comes with a business proposition to you. Please give him a fair and respectful hearing, and oblige him if consistent with the service.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, September 7, 1863.

HONORABLE SECRETARY OF WAR.

My dear Sir: This lady says her husband, Theophilus Brown, and his brother, George E. Brown, are in the Old Capitol Prison as prisoners of war, that they were conscripted into the rebel army, and were never for the rebel cause, and are now willing to do anything reasonable to be at liberty. This may be true, and if true they should be liberated. Please take hold of the case, and do what may seem proper in it.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Sep. 15, 1863

HON. SEC. OF WAR

Dear Sir:

The bearer of this, Mrs. Craddock, tells me she has a nephew—

Edwin Selva—who was in the rebel service, made a prisoner, and is now at Fort-Delaware; that he has two brothers in the Union Army, is yet under twenty one years of age; and wishes to take the oath of allegiance and be discharged. Upon reasonable proof of all this, let him take the oath and be discharged.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, D. C., September 16, 1863.

MRS. J. F. SPEED, Louisville, Ky.:

Mr. Holman will not be jostled from his place with my knowledge and consent.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, September 16, 1863.

MAJOR-GENERAL MEADE, Warrenton, Va.:

Is Albert Jones of Company K, Third Maryland Volunteers to be shot on Friday next? If so please state to me the general features of the case.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, September 17, 1863.

MAJOR-GENERAL SCHENCK, Baltimore, Md.:

Major Haynor left here several days ago under a promise to put down in writing, in detail the facts in relation to the misconduct of the people on the Eastern shore of Virginia. He has not returned. Please send him over.

A. LINCOLN.

"Cypher"

Executive Mansion, Washington, Sep. 23, 1863.

ROBERT A. MAXWELL

New-York

I hasten to say that in the State of information we have here, nothing could be more ungracious than to indulge any suspicion towards Gen. Thomas— It is doubtful whether his heroism and skill exhibited last Sunday afternoon, has ever been surpassed in the world.

A. LINCOLN.

September 26, 1863

A curious coincidence occurred in the relieving of General Negley—to wit, that the Secretary's order relieving him, and Gen. Foster's request to have him relieved were simultaneous, and independent of each other. I do not know what Foster's reason was; but I understand Stanton's to be that Negley was disinclined to raise colored troops, and Mr. S. wanted some one who would take to it more heartily.

A. LINCOLN.

Washington D. C. 29th Sept. 1863.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY, ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

President of the United States.

Honored Sir: We, the Officers and Members of the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance of the District of Columbia, on behalf of the Order, desire to present our respects to you.

As "Sons" and "Lady Visitors" of the Order, we are banded together to oppose the ravages of *intemperance*, the most terrible foe of our race—a foe which "prostrates all that is great, and blights all that is good in humanity."

In the prosecution of our work we entertain no malice against individuals or classes, but strive to create a healthful public sentiment in favor of total abstinence, win to our ranks those who love our cause, and save from a life of wretchedness, and a death of shame, the victims of this vice.

To-day, in conjunction with our brethren throughout the land, we celebrate the *twenty-first* anniversary of our Order. During our "minority" we have spread the institution over North America until there is scarcely a city or village, in our own land or the British Provinces, that cannot boast its Division of the Sons of Temperance. The Order has gone beyond the Atlantic, and is now in active operation in the British Isles, and on the continent of Europe. Over a million of persons have found refuge in our Order during the twenty-one years of its existence.

We had in this city two years ago but one feeble organization; we now have *five* flourishing Divisions, embracing about one thousand members and lady visitors.

It is not necessary for us to call the attention of your Excel-

lency to the effects of intemperance upon the officers and soldiers of our army. One of the most illustrious of your predecessors declared, in a time of profound peace, that this evil caused him more trouble in the administration of public affairs than all others. How much more during a time of war, when so many of the barriers against vice and crime are broken down, must it distress and embarrass *you*? It has been a powerful ally to our country's foes, and has gained for them more than military skill or the prowess of arms. It has been the traitor within our camp that has repeatedly betrayed us into their hands. Amid the difficulties that have surrounded you from this cause, you have our deepest sympathy and sincerest prayers.

Located as we are at the capital of the nation, while the sad drama of civil war is being enacted, we feel the fearful responsibility which rests upon us, and as a Temperance organization, as Christians and patriots, we appeal to you to aid us in banishing the demoralizing cup from this District, and from the armies of the Union.

Is it asking too much that every officer persisting in degrading himself, imperiling our cause, and ruining, by the wretched example of his drunkenness, the soldiers of his command, be dismissed the service? Ought not a great nation to regard the word of the Most High, who pronounced a "woe upon the drunkards of Ephraim, and upon those who erred through wine?" Can we expect him to be "for strength to them that turn the battle to the gate," until this evil is put away?

This Address was presented to me yesterday by the "Sons of Temperance" and I promised to submit to the War Department, in order that the suggestions therein, as to the Army, may be considered, and adopted if thought to be expedient.

A. LINCOLN.

Sep. 30, 1863.

. . . The President said to the Sons of Temperance, who recently waited upon him, that when he was a young man, long before the Sons of Temperance as an organization had an existence, he in a humble way made temperance speeches; and he thought he might say to this day, he had never by his example belied what he then

said. We are reminded by this of his returning the liquors sent in by neighbors on the day of his nomination, saying he had lived so many years of his life without them in his house, and he would not begin now; and of his answer to the inquiry after his inaugural. If he was not intimidated by that vast crowd? "Not half as much as I have been in making a temperance speech." Alexander the Great, George the Fourth, the King of Madagascar, have been terrible monuments of the power of the bottle in high places. In two ways may the President of the United States make himself eminently useful as a temperance man; one is by his example, especially to the men about him entrusted with the great affairs of the country; the other is by his orders as head of the army and navy of this nation. It was in relation to the army that he was addressed by the Sons of Temperance; and in reply, he said:

"As to the suggestions for the purpose of the advancement of the cause of temperance in the army, he could not now respond to them. To prevent intemperance in the army is a great part of the rules and articles of war. It is a part of the law of the land, and was so, he presumed, long ago, to dismiss officers for drunkenness. He was not sure that consistently with the public service more can be done than has been done. All, therefore, that he could promise, was to have a copy of the address submitted to the principal departments, and have it considered whether it contains any suggestions which will improve the cause of temperance and repress drunkenness in the army better than it is already done."

Executive Mansion,

Washington, D. C., September 29, 1863.

OFFICER IN COMMAND at Indianapolis, Ind.:

Please suspend execution of Adam Davies till further order from me.

A. LINCOLN.

Francis S. Corkran, Baltimore, Md.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Sept. 30, 1863.

HON. FRANCIS S. CORKRAN, Baltimore, Md.

Mrs. L. is now at home and would be pleased to see you any

time. If the grape time has not passed away, she would be pleased to join in the enterprise you mention.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Whereas one Alfred Rubery was convicted on or about the twelfth day of October 1863, in the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of California, of engaging in, and giving aid and comfort to the existing rebellion against the Government of this country, and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment, and to pay a fine of ten thousand dollars;

And whereas, the said Alfred Rubery is of the immature age of twenty years, and of highly respectable parentage;

And whereas, the said Alfred Rubery is a subject of Great Britain, and his pardon is desired by John Bright, of England;

Now therefore, be it known that I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States of America, these and divers other considerations me thereunto moving, and especially as a public mark of the esteem held by the United States of America for the high character and steady friendship of the said John Bright, do hereby grant a pardon to the said Alfred Rubery, the same to begin and take effect on the twentieth day of January, 1864, on condition that he leave the country within thirty days from and after that date.

Judge-Advocate-General Holt transmitted the papers to the President on the 19th of August, with a report characterizing the killing of Sanborn as an "undefended assassination." Yet the execution was delayed until Mr. Lincoln had gone through all the channels of investigation. The President found:

Upon the presentation of the record in this case and the examination thereof, aided by the report thereon of the Judge-Advocate-General, and on full hearing of counsel for the accused, being satisfied that no proper question remained open except as to the insanity of the accused, I caused a very full examination to be made on that question, upon a great amount of evidence, includ-

ing all offered by counsel of accused, by an expert of high reputation in that professional department, who thereon reports to me, as his opinion, that the accused "Dr. David M. Wright was not insane prior to or on the 11th day of July, 1863, the date of the homicide of Lieutenant Sanborn; that he has not been insane since, and is not insane now." I therefore approve the finding and sentence of the military commission, and direct that the Major-General in command of the department including the place of trial, and wherein the convict is now in custody, appoint time and place and carry said sentence into execution.

A. LINCOLN.

October 7, 1863.

War Department, Oct. 8, 1863.

MAJOR-GENERAL MEADE, Army of Potomac:

I am appealed to in behalf of August Blittersdorf, at Mitchell's Station, Va., to be shot tomorrow as a deserter. I am unwilling for any boy under eighteen to be shot and his father affirms that he is yet under sixteen. Please answer. His regiment or company not given me.

A. LINCOLN.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

It is my wish that Mrs. Emilie T. Helm (Widow of the late B. H. Helm, who fell in the Confederate service) now returning to Kentucky, may have protection of person and property except as to slaves of which I say nothing.

A. LINCOLN.

Mrs. Helm was Mrs. Lincoln's sister.

Note—When Mrs. Helm reached Fortress Monroe from Georgia she was told that she could not proceed to Kentucky without taking the oath of allegiance to the United States. This she refused to do. An army officer telegraphed Mrs. Helm's decision to the President, who after a short time sent this message:

Send her to me.

A. LINCOLN.

On the night of the Ohio election, about ten o'clock, a message clicked on the wires in the telegraph office in Columbus saying, "Where is John Brough? A. Lincoln." Brough was at hand, and directly the electric voice inquired, "Brough, about what is your majority now?" Brough replied, "Over 30,000." Lincoln requested Brough to remain at the office during the night. A little past midnight the question came again from Lincoln, "Brough, what is your majority this time?" Brough replied, "Over 50,000." And the question was thus repeated and answered several times, with rapidly increasing majorities, till five o'clock in the morning, when the question came again, "Brough, what is your majority now?" The latter was able to respond, "Over 100,000." As soon as the words could be flashed back over the wire, there came: "Glory to God in the highest. Ohio has saved the Nation. A. Lincoln."

October 13, 1863.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Oct. 24, 1863.

HON. SEC. OF WAR.

Sir:

It is said to me that *Slaughter Bradford* is in the Old Capitol prison, as is believed, because he was met upon the road by our troops, as they came from Culpepper ten days ago, when, if left alone, he might have met the enemy and given information— If this is true he should be liberated. What is known about the case?

A. LINCOLN.

War Department, Washington, D. C.

October 26, 1863.

MAJOR-GENERAL MEADE,

Army of Potomac:—

This letter will be given to you by Lieut. J. B. Forsythe, who has in custody and will turn over to you one Rhett Bannister of Pennsylvania. Bannister was drafted, failed to respond, and was apprehended by the provost-guard. On his way to join the regiment to which he had been assigned he accidentally ran across me. It appears that he has a son, not yet eighteen years of age, who recently enlisted, without his father's knowledge, and is now in

your army, Col. Gordon's regiment of Penn. Volunteers, Co. M. Bannister wants to take his son's place, and have the boy discharged and sent home to his mother, who is back there alone. I can see no objection, if it would not be subversive of discipline in your army, to discharging the boy and taking the father in his place. If this meets with your views I would like it done.

A. LINCOLN.

Lincoln to Romero, Mexican Ambassador who on Oct. 29, 1863, presented his credentials and made an address to Lincoln.

Lincoln replying said:

MR. ROMERO: You have hitherto resided with us, and for a considerable period have been the chief diplomatic representative of your country at this capital. You know how sincerely and how profoundly during that residence the United States desired that Mexico might always enjoy the blessings of domestic and foreign peace with perfect security prosperity independence and freedom. You know also that during the previous residence to which I have referred, you enjoyed the respect and esteem of this Government, and the good will of the people of the United States. I have the pleasure of assuring you that in all things, as well affecting your country as yourself personally, these feelings remain unchanged. Thanking you for the liberal sentiments you have expressed for the United States, and congratulating you upon the renewed confidence which your Government has reposed in you, it is with unaffected pleasure that I bid you welcome to Washington.

DEAR STANTON: Appoint this man chaplain in the army.

(Signed) A. LINCOLN.

DEAR MR. LINCOLN: He is not a preacher.

(Signed) E. M. STANTON.

DEAR STANTON: He is now.

(Signed) A. LINCOLN.

DEAR MR. LINCOLN: But there is no vacancy.

(Signed) E. M. STANTON.

DEAR STANTON: Appoint him chaplain-at-large.

(Signed) A. LINCOLN.

DEAR MR. LINCOLN: There is no warrant in law for that.
(Signed) E. M. STANTON.

DEAR STANTON: Appoint him anyhow.
(Signed) A. LINCOLN.

DEAR MR. LINCOLN: I will not.
(Signed) E. M. STANTON.

A TOAST TO BURNS

President Lincoln was at the annual meeting of the Burns Club of Washington one evening. He was asked by one of the members—in a note on a card—for a toast to be presented when the dinner was over. The President penciled a reply on the reverse side of the card. It is in two forms, the first draft evidently being unsatisfactory to Lincoln. The first note reads:

I can not frame a toast to Burns; I can say nothing worthy of his generous heart and transcendent genius.
A. LINCOLN.

Beneath was written the following:

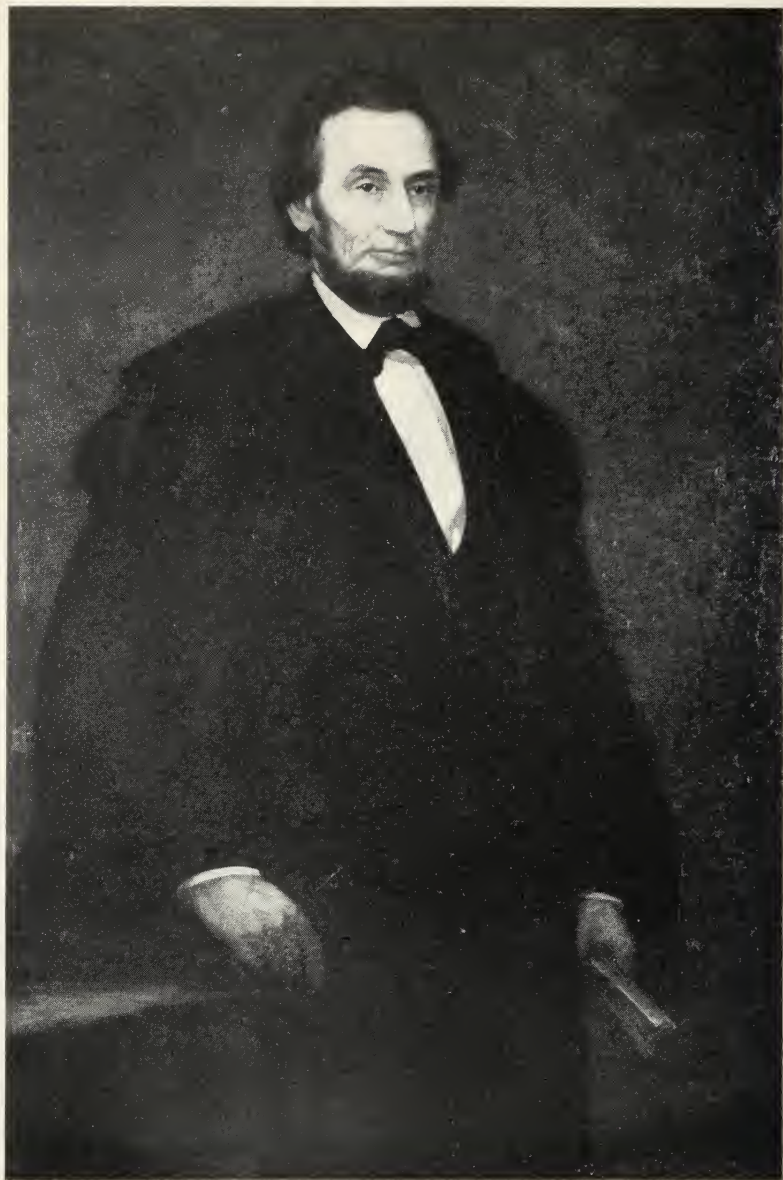
I can not frame a toast to Burns; I can say nothing worthy of his generous heart and transcending genius; thinking of what he has said I can not say anything which seems worth saying.
A. LINCOLN.

The Constitutional Text-Book: A Practical and familiar Exposition of the Constitution of the United States. By Furman Sheppard.

Phila. 1863

At the end of the chapter containing Amendments to the Constitution has been written in Lincoln's hand:

"Article XIII.—If any citizen of the United States shall accept, claim, receive or retain any title of nobility or honor, or shall without the consent of Congress, accept or retain any present, pension, office or emolument of any kind whatever, from any Emperor, King, Prince or foreign power, such person shall cease to be a citizen of the United States, and SHALL be incapable of holding any office of profit or trust under them, or either of them."



Portrait by William E. Marshall
(In the Possession of the New York Historical Society)

In 1810 an amendment similar to the Article here written by Lincoln was proposed but was never accepted. If it had been approved it would have become the XIII Amendment, as here recorded.

F. S. B. wants to be Q. M. Com. or something of the sort.

I think after all, but am not sure, that he is a drunken loafer.

O. H. P. trying to resign an office which he does not hold.

Please come to Cabinet $\frac{1}{2}$ past ten to-day.

A. LINCOLN.

Lincoln answers thus informally a letter written by Chase that General Hunter's order enfranchising the slaves in his department be not revoked.

No commanding general shall do such a thing upon my responsibility, without consulting me.

A. LINCOLN.

If Horatio Ames will make ten wrought iron guns after his method, which shall answer satisfactorily such tests as I shall order, I will see that he gets paid \$1 per pound for each gun.

A. LINCOLN.

To many the present moment appears dark. To me the signs are all glorious. God rules. This is His way of deciding the Slavery question. The Nation is to be purified and strengthened by severe chastisement. The Oligarchy of the Slave Power is to disappear forever.

The President's approval of the Report of the Congressional Committee on the Operations of the Army of the Potomac. New York 1863.

First—Leave such force at Manasses Junction as shall make it entirely certain that the enemy shall not repossess himself of that position and line of communication.

Second—Leave Washington secure.

Third—Move the remainder of the force down the Potomac, choosing a new base at Fortress Monroe, or anywhere between here and there; or, at all events, move such remainder of the army at once in pursuit of the enemy by said route.

Private

Executive War Department
Washington City Nov 8th 1863

HON. S. C. POMEROY

My dear Sir

I have examined Killingworth evidence in Capt. Levy's case and I must say it makes too bad a record to admit of my interference, in fact it could not be worse. In the nature of the case of K. alone of all competent witnesses can know whether Capt. L. hypothesis is true or false and he most fully disproves it. He fully proves also that Capt. L. sought to have him testify falsely.

To interfere under the circumstances would blacken my own character.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Private, except to Gen. Dix.

Executive Mansion, Washington, November 9, 1863.

GENTLEMEN:

Upon the subject of your letter I have to say that it is beyond my province to interfere with New York City politics; but that I am very grateful to Gen. Dix for the zealous and able military and *quasi* civil support he has given the government during the war; and that if the people of New York should tender him the Mayoralty, and he accept it, nothing on that subject could be more satisfactory to me. In this I must not be understood as saying aught against anyone or attempting the least degree of dictation in the matter. To state it in another way, if Gen. Dix's present relation to the general government lays any restraint upon him in this matter, I wish to remove that restraint.

Yours truly,

MESSRS. ROBERT B. ROOSEVELT,
J. J. ASTOR, JR.,
NATHL. SANDS.

A. LINCOLN.

President Lincoln to Gettysburg citizens the evening before the delivery of his famous address :

I appear before you, fellow-citizens, merely to thank you for this compliment. The inference is a very fair one that you would hear me for a little while at least, were I to commence to make a speech. I do not appear before you for the purpose of doing so, and for several substantial reasons. The most substantial of these is that I have no speech to make. In my position it is somewhat important that I should not say any foolish things. [A voice: "If you can help it."] It very often happens that the only way to help it is to say nothing at all. Believing that is my present condition this evening, I must beg of you to excuse me from addressing you further.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Dec. 14, 1863

All military and naval commanders will please give to the Hon. Samuel L. Casey, of Kentucky, with any member of inferior stern-wheel steamboats, not exceeding three, taking in tow any number of barges, scows, flats and the like, not having steam power, which they may be able to take without money and without cargoes outgoing, and only with crews to navigate the whole, and necessary provisions for himself and said crews, protection and safe conduct from Cairo to Red River, and up said river and its tributaries till he shall pass beyond our military lines, and also give him such protection and safe conduct on his return to our lines back to Cairo with any cargoes he may bring, and on his safe return from beyond our lines with said boats and tows, allow him to report once or twice, if he shall desire.

A. LINCOLN.

To Mr. F. B. Carpenter, the artist, in 1864.

The great thing about Grant, I take it, is his perfect coolness and persistency of purpose. I judge he is not easily excited, which is a great element in an officer, and has the grit of a bulldog! Once let him get his "teeth" in, and nothing can shake him off.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Jan. 9, 1864.

ADMIRAL DAHLGREN

My dear Sir

Capt. Lavender wishes to show you a contrivance of his for discovering, and aiding to remove, under-water obstructions to the passage of vessels, and has sufficiently impressed me to induce me to send him to you. He is sufficiently vouched to me as a worthy gentleman; and this known, it needs not my asking for you to treat him as such.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Jan. 15, 1864.

ADJUTANT GENERAL THOMAS,

It is represented that Mrs. Eugenia P. Bass, owner of plantations in Mississippi about seventy miles above Vicksburg, having taken the oath of allegiance, leased and gave possession of said plantations to parties of unquestionable loyalty; and that you, acting perhaps in some mistake of facts, have leased the plantations to other parties. Please ascertain how this is, and if loyal lessees of hers, had rights there prior to any action of yours, do not let them be disturbed. Of course I know nothing certainly about this matter.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT.

In virtue of the authority in me vested by the Constitution, it is hereby ordered that an Election of Congressmen from the State of Texas take place on Friday, March 4th., 1864, said Officers to be duly chosen by the loyal supporters of His Excellency, Gov. SAMUEL MORTON. The Polls to be open from sun-"up" to sun-set of the same day.

It is also ordered that His Excellency, the Governor cause to be in force at the Polls throughout the entire day, as a "Ballot-Box Guard" a force of no less than twenty-five armed men.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN,

President.

WM. H. SEWARD,

Secretary of State.

Decision rendered February 11, 1864, as to the liability of the Government to pay two or three hundred dollars in greenback notes lost by a coachman by fire at the mansion stables, February 10, 1864. Case submitted by Robert Lincoln.

The payment of a note presupposes its presentation to the maker of it. It is the sign or symbol of value received; it is not *value* itself, that is clear. At the same time the production of the note seems a necessary warrant for the demand; and while the moral obligation is as strong without this, governments and banking institutions do not recognize any principle beyond the strictly legal. It is an established rule that the citizen cannot sue the Government; therefore, I don't see but that it is a dead loss for Jehu.

War Department
Washington, Feb. 22, 1864

HON. B. LOAN

Dear Sir:

At your instance I directed a part of the advertising for this Department to be done in the St. Joseph Tribune. I have just been informed that the Tribune openly avows its determination that in no event will it support the re-election of the President. As you probably know, please inform me whether this is true. The President's wish is that no objection shall be made to any paper respectfully expressing its preference for the *nomination* of any candidate; but that the patronage of the government shall be given to none which engages in cultivating a sentiment to oppose the *election* of any when he shall have been fairly nominated by the regular Union National Convention.

Executive Mansion, Washington, February 23, 1864
MASTER WILLIE SMITH:

Your friend, Leroy C. Driggs, tells me you are a very earnest friend of mine, for which please allow me to thank you. You and those of your age are to take charge of this country when we older ones shall have gone; and I am glad to learn that you already take so lively an interest in what just now so deeply concerns us.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

March 1864

President Lincoln wrote Governor Hahn as follows:

I barely suggest for your private consideration whether some of the colored people may not be let in; as, for instance, the very intelligent, and those who have fought gallantly in our ranks. . . . But this is only a suggestion, not for the public, but to you alone.

A. LINCOLN.

William Cullen Bryant tried to obtain a pardon for the son of Shepard A. Mount, a personal friend. He prevailed upon Frank B. Carpenter, painter of the "Emancipation Group," who personally laid before the President the extenuating circumstances, that the boy living in Mississippi was forced into the Confederate Army:

"Let me see Father Bryant's letter," said Lincoln to Carpenter, and then, on getting hold of it, he turned it over and wrote across the back:

"Release this man upon his taking the oath."

A. LINCOLN.

In pursuance of the provisions of Section 14, of the Act of Congress, entitled "An Act to aid in the construction of a Railroad and Telegraph Line from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean, and to secure to the Government the use of the same for Postal, Military, and other purposes," approved July 1st 1862, authorizing and directing the President of the United States, to fix the point on the Western boundary of the State of Iowa, from which the Union, Pacific Rail Road Company is by said section authorized and required to construct a single line of Railroad and Telegraph, upon the most direct and practicable route, subject to the approval of the President of the United States, so as to form a connection with the lines of said company, at some point on the one hundredth meridian of longitude in said section named: I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do, upon the application of the said Company, designate and establish such first above named point, on the Western boundary of

the State of Iowa, East of, and opposite to the East line of Section 10, in Township 15, North, of Range 13, East of the Sixth principal meridian, in the Territory of Nebraska.

Done at the City of Washington, this, seventh, day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty four.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

“Allow Mrs. J. R. Reid, with her child, to take the oath of Dec. 8, 1863, and pass our lines at City-Point, and go North.

“A. LINCOLN.

“March 12, 1864.”

Executive Mansion, Washington, March 12, 1864.

HON. SEC. OF WAR

My dear Sir:

Gov. Smith of Rhode Island brings you this. Please give him a full hearing. After a pretty full talk with him, it seems to me that the one thing most likely to surmount the difficulty there, would be to not consolidate the 1st & 3rd Cavalry, but preserve them both, the Governor to exert himself to the utmost to fill both. The consolidation throws out one set of officers, and which ever set it may be, it offends either the Governor or a U. S. Senator. We can not afford to offend either, while we can avoid it. Please try. There is also a difficulty about Capt. Silvey, upon which I hope you will fully hear the Governor.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Extract from a speech at a Ladies' Fair for the benefit of the soldiers, Washington, March 16, 1864.

In this extraordinary war extraordinary developments have manifested themselves such as have not been seen in former wars; and among these manifestations nothing has been more remarkable than these fairs for the relief of suffering soldiers and their families, and the chief agents in these fairs are the women of America. I am not accustomed to the use of the language of

eulogy; I have never studied the art of paying compliments to women; but I must say that if all that has been said by orators and poets since the creation of the world in praise of women were applied to the women of America, it would not do them justice for their conduct during the war. I will close by saying, God bless the women of America.

Executive Mansion, Washington, March 17, 1864.

HON. JOHN A. J. CRESWELL

My dear Sir:

It needs not to be a secret, that I wish success to emancipation in Maryland. It would aid much to end the rebellion. Hence it is a matter of National consequence, in which every national man, may rightfully feel a deep interest. I sincerely hope the friends of the measure will allow no minor considerations to divide and distract them.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

March 22—1864

“I never knew a man who wished to be himself a slave. Consider if you know any good thing that no man desires for himself.”

Executive Mansion, Washington, March 28, 1864.

HON. SECRETARY OF WAR.

My dear Sir—

The letter of Mr. Tho. H. Burrowes, written in behalf of the Common School Teachers of Pennsylvania, and which you left with me as a mode of giving me the notice therein requested, is herewith returned to you. Please present to the writer, and to those he represents, my grateful thanks for this evidence of their patriotic devotion, and this contribution to the great loyal public sentiment of the country, which is, indeed, the foundation of all else that is valuable in this great national trial. The gun tendered you will please accept and dispose of in such way as you may deem proper.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

April 5, 1864

Washington Co., Pa.

TO THE HONORABLE ABRAHAM LINCOLN

President of U. S. A.

Hon. Sir

After long hesitation through dread and fear I have at last concluded to inform you of my troubles. In order to make the case clear it is necessary to give you a brief history connected with myself and would be husband. We have been engaged for some years. In August 1862 he enlisted to serve his country for a term of three years. In July 1863 he was taken to Baltimore to a Hospital sick and on or about the first of October 1863 he had recovered and while waiting to be sent to his regiment he had a chance with his fellow Key Stone soldiers to attend the election. Here allow me to state that he did not forget our Curtin.

It was our design to marry while he was at home and under those determinations we very foolishly indulged too freely in matrimonial affairs and at last our union was defeated by my Father. In consequence of him he was forced to return to the army a single man. The result of our indulgences are going to bring upon us both an unlawful family providing you do not take mercy upon us and grant him a leave of absence in order to ratify past events. I am Honored Sir one that circumstances must apologize for the boldness to ask of you this favor under these aggravating circumstances. I hope and pray to God that you will not cast me aside in scorn and dismay. Remember that I have a Father and mother and a wide circle of friends and if we cannot remedy past events I only pray that Death may come to me at an early period of time.

Allow him time if it is thy will to remove me to Philadelphia, Pa. to reside during his stay in the army. Dear Sir I can only ask and it lies in your power to grant my request. May God soften your heart if need be. May you view this subject as a serious one connected with me.

The Soldier I speak of is A—— L—— G—— private Company —— of the 140th Reg. P. Vol. The said regiment is in the 1st Brigade 1st Division 2nd Army Corps Army of the Potomac.

It may seem strange to you that I have taken this correspondence to you upon myself as it would seem more reasonable

for him to perform that duty. In answer to this he says they have orders prohibiting any correspondence with those in authority at the seat of Government for furloughs. I will close leaving all to your decision and remaining your obedient servant.

Miss C—— N——.

(Indorsed)

HON. SEC. OF WAR

Send him to her
by all means.

A. LINCOLN

April 14, 1864

Furlough granted

File A. G.

Executive Mansion, Washington, April 11, 1864.

WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I know nothing on the subject of the attached letter, except as therein stated. Neither do I personally know Mrs. Hunt. She has, however, from the beginning of the war, been constantly represented to me as an open and somewhat influential friend of the Union. It has been said to me (I know not whether truly) that her husband is in the Rebel army, that she avows her purpose to not live with him again, and that she refused to see him when she had an opportunity during one of John Morgan's raids into Kentucky. I would not offer her, or any wife, a temptation to a permanent separation from her husband, but if she shall avow that her mind is already independently and fully made up to such separation, I shall be glad for the property sought by her to be delivered to her, upon her taking the oath of December 8, 1863.

A. LINCOLN.

On the reverse side of a request for a pass for a boy ten years old is written in the handwriting of Lincoln: "They say that by the destruction of a bridge the boy has been unable to pass on this. Might it not be renewed for the little fellow?"

A. LINCOLN."

April 11, 1864.

Executive Mansion, Washington, April 25, 1864.

DR. JOHN P. GRAY,
Utica, New York.

Private Lorenzo Stewart, 14th regiment New York Volunteer Artillery, is in military custody at Elmira, New York, having been, by military court, tried for homicide, and sentenced to death, his execution awaiting the order of the President of the United States. The record is before me; and a question is made as to the sanity of the accused. You will please to proceed to Elmira, New York, and take in writing, all evidence which may be offered on behalf of Private Stewart, and against him, and any, in addition, which you may find within your reach, and deem pertinent; all said evidence to be directed to the question of Private Stewart's sanity or insanity, and not to any other question; you to preside, with power to exclude evidence which shall appear to you clearly not pertinent to the question. When the taking of the evidence shall be closed, you will report the same to me together with your own conclusions as to Private Stewart's sanity both at the time of the homicide, and at the time of your examination. On reaching Elmira, you will present this letter to the officer then commanding at that Post, and deliver to him a copy of the same, upon which he is hereby directed to notify Clinton Rice, Esqr. and F. B. Swift, Esqr. No 200 Broadway New York, of the same; to designate some suitable person in his command to appear for the Government as Judge Advocate, or Prosecuting Attorney: to provide for the attendance of all such witnesses before you as may be desired by either party, or by yourself, and who may be within convenient reach of you: to furnish you a suitable place, or places, for conducting the examination: and to render you such other reasonable assistance in the premises as you may require; If you deem it proper, you will examine Private Stewart personally, and you may, in your discretion, require him to be present during the whole, or any part, of the taking of the evidence. The military are hereby charged to see that an escape does not occur.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

War Department,
Washington City, April 25, 1864.

JOHN WILLIAMS, Springfield, Ill.:

Yours of the 15th is just received. Thanks for your kind remembrance. I would accept your offer at once, were it not that I fear there might be some impropriety in it, though I do not see that there would. I will think of it a while.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, April 28, 1864.

WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Charles G. Russell comes to me voluntarily saying he is a private in Co. B. in the 12th Iowa Regiment, and saying he is apprehensive of being arrested and punished as a deserter— Now, on condition that he rejoins his Regiment, and re-enlists with it, and serves out said re-enlistment, or until honorably discharged, for any cause, he is fully pardoned for said supposed desertion.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Department, Washington, May 3, 1864.

HON. GIDEON WELLES.

Sir

It is now quite certain that a large number of our colored soldiers with their white officers, were, by the rebel force, massacred after they had surrendered, at the recent capture of Fort Pillow. So much is known, though the evidence is not quite ready to be laid before me. Meanwhile I will thank you to prepare, and give me in writing, your opinion as to what course, the Government should take in the Case.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

In the draft of Welles' reply, which accompanies this, he advises not to decide the course to follow hastily, and to insist that the guilty parties be surrendered by the confederate government for punishment; but he abhors the doctrine of retaliation as barbarous and inhuman, and advises against it.

Washington D. C. May 4th, 1864

HON. ANDREW JOHNSON

Govr.

Do you really wish to have control of the question of releasing rebel prisoners? So far as they may be Tennesseans

If you do please tell us so distinctly.

Your Answer not to be made public.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington May 5, 1864.

HON. JNO. A. J. CRESWELL

My dear Sir

I shall be pleased to receive the gentleman named at 2 P. M. to-day.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

May 6, 1864

Respects to Mr. Ewing; but I am not ready to decide his cases, & I do not wish him to come in scold about it.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, May 10, 1864.

HON. SEC. OF WAR

Dear Sir.

Let Private Thomas Lowery of Co. G. 11th New-Jersey Vols, now in hospital at Philadelphia, be discharged—

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

RESPONSE TO SERENADE AT WASHINGTON, MAY 13, 1864.

FELLOW-CITIZENS:—I am very much obliged to you for the compliment of this call, though I apprehend it is owing more to the good news received to-day from the army, than to a desire to see me.

I am indeed very grateful to the brave men who have been struggling with the enemy in the field, to their noble commanders who have directed them, and especially to our Maker.

Our commanders are following up their victories resolutely and successfully.

I think, without knowing the particulars of the plans of General Grant, that what has been accomplished is of more importance than at first appears. I believe, I know (and am especially grateful to know), that General Grant has not been jostled in his purposes, that he has made all his points, and to-day he is on his line as he purposed before he moved his armies.

I will volunteer to say that I am very glad at what has happened, but there is a great deal still to be done. While we are grateful to all the brave men and officers for the events of the past few days, we should, above all, be very grateful to Almighty God, who gives us victory.

There is enough yet before us requiring all loyal men and patriots to perform their share of the labor and follow the example of the modest general at the head of our armies, and sink all personal considerations for the sake of the country.

I commend you to keep yourselves in the same tranquil mood that is characteristic of that brave and loyal man. I have said more than I expected when I came before you. Repeating my thanks for this call, I bid you good-bye.

Probably the most remarkable Lincoln pardon in existence on a small strip of hospital bandage linen. Dated May 28, 1864.

During this period of the Battles of the Wilderness, Lincoln spent nearly all his spare time among the wounded and prisoners in the hospitals. The story of this bit of linen, with the fourteen life-saving words upon it, besides Lincoln's signature and the date, seems as clear as if fully written out.

Going through a hospital prison Lincoln discovers a wounded lad on one of the cots. He goes over to him and listens to his story—that of being accused of desertion, and wounded. Lincoln, never known to refuse clemency to any boy under eighteen years of age, is evidently convinced of the truthfulness of the lad's story, and lacking a piece of paper, takes an ordinary bit of hospital bandage, and writes these words:

“Let this boy be pardoned for any supposed desertion, and discharged from the service, A. LINCOLN. May 28, 1864.”

The President's idea of Democratic policy and strategy.

May, 1864.

The slightest knowledge of arithmetic will prove to any man that the rebel armies can not be destroyed by Democratic strategy. It would sacrifice all the white men of the North to do it. There are now in the service of the United States nearly two hundred thousand able-bodied colored men, most of them under arms, defending and acquiring Union territory.

The Democratic strategy demands that these forces be disbanded, and that the masters be conciliated by restoring them to slavery. The black men who now assist Union prisoners to escape are to be converted into our enemies, in the vain hope of gaining the good will of their masters. We shall have to fight two nations instead of one.

You can not conciliate the South if you guarantee ultimate success, and the experiences of the present war prove their success is inevitable if you fling the compulsory labor of four millions of black men into their side of the scale.

Will you give our enemies such military advantages as insure success, and then depend upon coaxing, flattery, and concession to get them back into the Union?

Abandon all the forts now garrisoned by black men, take two hundred thousand men from our side, and put them in the battle field or corn field against us, and we would be compelled to abandon the war in three weeks. We have to hold territory in inclement and sickly places. Where are the Democrats to do this? It was a free fight, and the field was open to the War Democrats to put down this rebellion by fighting against both the master and slave long before the present policy was inaugurated. There have been men base enough to propose to me to return to slavery our black warriors of Port Hudson and Olustee, and thus win the respect of the masters they fought. Should I do so, I should deserve to be damned in time and eternity.

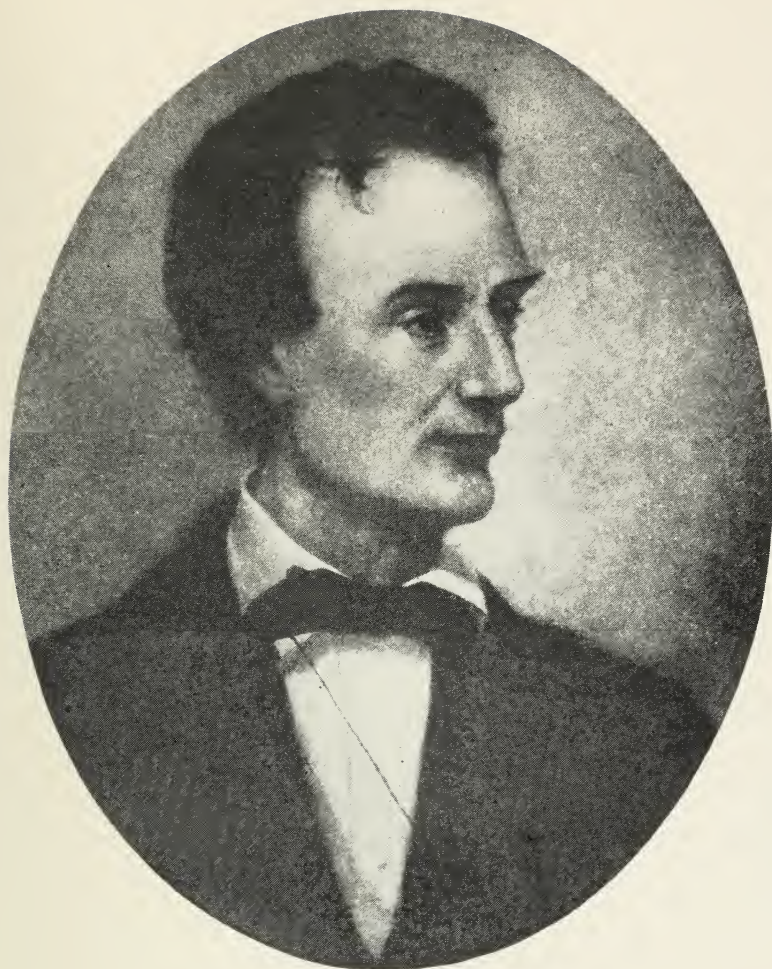
Come what will, I will keep my faith with friend and foe. My enemies pretend I am now carrying on the war for the sole

purpose of abolition. So long as I am president it shall be carried on for the sole purpose of restoring the Union. But no human power can subdue this rebellion without the use of the emancipation policy, and every other policy calculated to weaken the moral and physical forces of the rebellion.

Freedom has given us two hundred thousand men, raised on southern soil. It will give us more yet. Just so much it has abstracted from the enemy, and instead of checking the South, there are evidences of a fraternal feeling growing up between our men and the rank and file of the rebel soldiers. Let my enemies prove to the country that the destruction of slavery is not necessary to the restoration of the Union. I will abide the issue.

Related to Mr. F. B. Carpenter and Major John Hay on the evening of his second nomination, June 8, 1864.

A very singular occurrence took place the day I was nominated at Chicago, four years ago, of which I am reminded to-night. In the afternoon of the day, returning home from down town, I went upstairs to Mrs. Lincoln's sitting-room. Feeling somewhat tired, I lay down upon a couch in the room directly opposite a bureau upon which was a looking-glass. As I reclined, my eye fell upon the glass, and I saw distinctly *two* images of myself, exactly alike, except that one was a little paler than the other. I arose, and lay down again, with the same result. It made me quite uncomfortable for a few moments, but some friends coming in, the matter passed out of my mind. The next day, while walking in the street, I was suddenly reminded of the circumstance, and the disagreeable sensation produced by it returned. I had never seen anything of the kind before, and I did not know what to make of it. I determined to go home and place myself in the same position, and if the same effect was produced, I would make up my mind that it was the result of some principle of refraction or optics which I did not understand, and dismiss it. I tried the experiment with a like result; and, as I said to myself, accounting for it on some principle unknown to me, it ceased to trouble me. But some time ago I tried to produce the same effect *here*, by arranging a glass and a couch in the same position, without success.



Lincoln in 1860

Portrait by Thomas Hicks, N. A.

(In the Possession of Edson Bradley, Washington, D. C.)

Washington, June 10, 1864.

Official reception of Hon. Elisha H. Allen, Hawaian Minister, by the President. After presenting his credentials, the President said:

SIR: In every light in which the state of the Hawaian Islands can be contemplated, it is an object of profound interest for the United States. Virtually it was once a colony. It is now a near and intimate neighbor. It is a haven of shelter and refreshment for our merchants, fishermen, seamen and other citizens when on their lawful occasions they are navigating the Eastern Seas and Oceans. Its people are free, and its laws, language and religion are largely the fruits of our own teaching and example. The distinguished part which you, Mr. Minister, have acted in the history of that interesting country is well known here. It gives me pleasure to assure you of my sincere desire to do what I can to render now your sojourn in the United States agreeable to yourself, satisfactory to your Sovereign, and beneficial to the Hawaian people.

Executive Mansion, Washington, June 10, 1864.

Major John Hay, Assistant Adjutant General, will repair at once to St. Louis Missouri, and having executed my verbal instructions will return to his station here.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington City, June 15, 1864

WHEREAS it has come to my knowledge that John S. Carlisle of West Virginia is engaged in treasonable and disloyal correspondence with one Louis A. Welton an enemy of the United States and an agent of the rebels now in arms and at war with the United States, and has invited and urged the said agent of the rebels to come to the city of Washington to confer with him the said Carlisle; It is ordered that Colonel Wisewell Military Governor of the District of Washington arrest and take in custody the said John S. Carlisle and hold him in custody until further order.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, June 18, 1864.

HON. SEC. OF WAR.

Dear Sir.

Hon. L. Anderson and Judge Williams of Ky. are here urging, first, that assessments, for some time suspended in West Ky, be again put in operation; and secondly, that Gen. E. A. Paine be assigned to command them. Do both these things for them unless you know some reason to the contrary. I personally know Gen. Paine to be a good true man, having a West-Point education; but I do not know much as to his Military ability.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

In response to General Grant's suggestion, while at City Point, Virginia, in June, 1864, that the President should visit the colored troops who had so recently performed acts of bravery in front of Petersburg.

Oh, yes, I want to take a look at those boys. I read with the greatest delight the accounts given in Mr. Dana's dispatch to the Secretary of War how gallantly they behaved. He said they took six out of the sixteen guns captured that day. I was opposed on nearly every side when I first favored the raising of colored regiments; but they have proved their efficiency, and I am glad they have kept pace with the white troops in the recent assaults. When we wanted every able-bodied man who could be spared to go to the front, and my opposers kept objecting to the negroes, I used to tell them that at such times it was just as well to be a little color-blind.

Executive Mansion, Washington, June 30, 1864.

Private

HON. M. S. WILKINSON

My dear Sir:

I can not longer delay the Montana appointments; and it is with great regret, on your account, that I have thought fit to send the name of Judge Edgerton for Governor. I could not do otherwise without much greater difficulty to myself, and I beg

you to be assured that it is a great pain to me to know that it is disagreeable to you. Do not, for a moment suppose that this note is intended to constrain you to support the nomination.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Wilkinson was United States Senator from Minnesota. The Senate ratified the appointments which Lincoln made, and Sydney Edgerton thus became governor of Montana.

A prisoner in Camp Morton made a personal appeal to the President for release, as follows: "Mr. President, I never was, am not, and never can be, a secessionist. I have been of a highly nervous temperament, with weak lungs, and easily excited. I was shamefully deceived by a supposed friend, who made me believe that I would be killed unless I fled my home and native State to seek safety in the South," etc. Upon this document the President made this droll indorsement:

This man being so well vouched, and talking so much better than any other I have heard, let him take the oath of December 8, and be discharged.

A. LINCOLN.

July 1, 1864.

Among Senator Fessenden's papers is a memorandum in President Lincoln's handwriting as follows:

Executive Mansion, Washington, July 4, 1864

I have today said to Hon. W. P. Fessenden, on his assuming the office of Secretary of the Treasury, that I will keep no person in office in his department, against his express will, so long as I choose to continue him; and he has said to me, that in filling vacancies he will strive to give his willing consent to my wishes in cases when I may let him know that I have such wishes. It is, and will be, my sincere desire, not only to advance the public interest by giving him complete control of the department, but also to make his position agreeable to him.

In Cabinet my view is that in questions affecting the whole country there should be full and frequent consultations, and that

nothing should be done particularly affecting any department without consultation with the head of that department.

July 4, 1864.

Orders had been issued by Maj. Gen. Angus for an escort of 20 men for the President. Lieut. Jameson reported the same, and received a verbal order that none were needed, on which he addresses the President stating the facts. President Lincoln replies:

“I believe I need no escort, and unless the Sec. of War directs, none need attend me. A. LINCOLN.”

Washington, July 10, 1864.

DEAR GRANT:

Your memo at hand, in the case of Corporal Hardy charged with “Seen talking to the enemy.” To my mind the evidence presented to the trial board was in his line of duty. The war is on; we need all the man-power available. I therefore feel that Corporal Hardy should be freed—and I so order.

I here then state my purpose according to my view of official duty; since I intend no modification of my often personally expressed wish that all men everywhere could be free.

Yours,

A. LINCOLN.

On July 2, 1864, Lincoln signed an act which amended the act of 1862 incorporating the Union Pacific Railroad Company. By the amendatory act the President was authorized to appoint three directors in addition to the fifteen elected by the stockholders.

Executive Mansion, July 19th, 1864.

By virtue of the authority conferred upon the President of the United States, by the thirteenth section of the Act of Congress approved July 2nd, 1864, amending the act to aid in the construction of a Railroad and Telegraph line from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean, etc.

Jesse L. Williams of Indiana
George Ashmun of Massachusetts
Charles Sherman of Ohio

and

are hereby appointed directors on the part of the Government of the United States, for the Union Pacific Railroad and Telegraph Company, to serve until the next ensuing regular election of directors for said Company.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

The Union Pacific amendatory act also empowered the President to appoint a commissioner to examine the first twenty miles of railroad and telegraph line completed.

Executive Mansion, July 27th, 1864.

By virtue of the authority vested in the President of the United States, by the sixth section of an act entitled An Act to amend an act entitled "An act aid in the construction of a Railroad and Telegraph Line from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean, and to secure to the Government the use of the same for postal, military, and other purposes" approved July 2nd, 1864.

Richard W. Thompson, of Indiana, is hereby appointed a Commissioner, to examine the road or roads authorized by said Acts to be constructed by the "Union Pacific Railroad Company," and the "Union Pacific Railroad Company Eastern Division," and make report to him in relation thereto as contemplated and specified by said Acts.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

The petition of the women employees of the Philadelphia arsenal sets forth that: "At the breaking out of the rebellion that is now deluging our land with blood, and which for a time threatened the destruction of the Nation, the prices paid at the U. S. Arsenal in this city were barely sufficient to enable the women engaged upon Government work to earn a scanty respectable subsistence. Since the period referred to, board, provisions, and all other articles of female consumption have advanced to such an extent as to make an average of at least seventy-five percent, while women's labor has been *reduced thirty per cent.*" Etc., etc. Governor Curtin united with the petitioners in their request which to him, appears to be "just and reasonable." President Lincoln refers the matter to Secretary Stanton with the following comment:

"I know not how much is within the legal power of the government in this case; but it is certainly true in equity, that the laboring women in our employment should be paid at the least as much as they were at the beginning of the war. Will the Secretary of War please have the cases fully examined, and so much relief given as can be consistently with the law and the public service.

A. LINCOLN, July 27, 1864."

Miss Alice Maria Waring may be allowed to remain in Maryland with her parents if she behaves herself from this time forward.

A. LINCOLN.

August 10, 1864

If Hon. Thaddeus Stevens will say in writing, on this paper, that he wishes this man discharged, I will discharge him.

A. LINCOLN.

Aug. 10, 1864.

Executive Mansion, August 21, 1864

Mr. Ames having constructed certain wrought-iron cannon of 7-inch calibre, which he desires to have inspected and tested with a view to determine their fitness for the United States service, it is

Ordered

First, that a board of officers, to consist of Major General Gilmore as president of the board, a competent ordnance officer to be designated by the Secretary of War, and a competent officer to be designated by the Secretary of the Navy, shall be organized and meet at Bridgeport, Connecticut, on the first day of September next, with a view of inspecting and testing the aforesaid cannon and determining the capacity and fitness for the United States service, with such tests and trials as they shall deem proper, and make report to the President of their opinion in respect to said cannon, and their value and fitness for the service.

Second, that the ordnance bureaus of the War and Navy De-

partments shall provide suitable shot, shells, and ammunition for making the aforesaid tests, and provide all the necessities for a careful and fair test of the aforesaid cannon.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, August 31, 1864.

Mr. Louis A. Welton came from the rebel lines into ours with a written contract to furnish large supplies to the rebels, was arrested with the contract in his possession, and has been sentenced to imprisonment for it. He, and his friends complain of this, on no substantial evidence whatever, but simply because his word, only given after his arrest, that he only took the contract as a means of escaping from the rebel lines, was not accepted as a full defense— He perceives that if this had been true he would have destroyed the contract so soon as it had served his purpose in getting him across the lines; but not having done this and being caught with the paper on him, he tells this other absurd story that he kept the paper in the belief that our government would join him in taking the profit of fulfilling the contract. This is my understanding of the case; and I can not conceive of a case of a man found in possession of a contract to furnish rebel supplies, who can not escape, if this be held a sufficient ground of escape— It is simply for the accused to escape by telling a very absurd and improbable story. Now, if Senator Morgan, and Mr. Weed, and Mr. Raymond, will not argue with me that I *ought* to discharge this man, but will, in writing on this sheet, simply request me to do it, I will do it solely in deference to their wishes.

A. LINCOLN.

The following endorsements appear on page three of the foregoing Lincoln letter:

We respectfully request the President to pardon the within named Louis A. Welton, now at Fort Delaware.

THURLOW WEED.

I have read Mr. Welton's statement and if it is true, (and I know no reason for distrusting it,) his pardon would be an act of *justice*. I concur in Mr. Weed's request.

H. J. RAYMOND.

President Lincoln to Joseph A. Gilmore, War Governor of New Hampshire, who at the time was actively engaged in raising New State Troops for the War. "My dear Governor Gilmore. I thank you very heartily for your kind invitation to visit Concord, and especially for the exceedingly cordial terms in which you have conveyed it. I very much regret that I cannot at present accept it. I am by no means certain that I can leave Washington at all this Summer. The exacting nature of my official duties renders it exceedingly improbable. I assure you however that I am none the less sincerely grateful for your kind intentions and for the expressions of personal good will contained in your letter. I am very truly yours,

A. LINCOLN."

Reply to Rev. Dr. Pohlman and others of the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, August, 1864.

I welcome here the representatives of the Evangelical Lutherans of the United States. I accept with gratitude their assurances of the sympathy and support of that enlightened, influential, and loyal class of my fellow-citizens in an important crisis, which involves, in my judgment, not only the civil and religious liberties of our own dear land, but in a large degree the civil and religious liberties of mankind in many countries and through many ages. You well know, gentlemen, and the whole world knows how reluctantly I accepted this issue of battle forced upon me, on my advent to this place, by the internal enemies of our country. . . . You all may recollect that in taking up the sword thus forced into our hands, this Government appealed to the prayers of the pious and the good, and declared that it placed its whole dependence upon the favor of God. I now humbly and reverently, in your presence, reiterate the acknowledgment of that dependence, not doubting that if it shall please the Divine Being who determines the destinies of nations, that this shall remain a united people, they will, humbly seeking the Divine guidance, make their prolonged national existence a source of new benefits to themselves and their successors, and to all classes and conditions of mankind.

To a private secretary of one of the cabinet ministers, who presented a discouraging account of the political situation in August, 1864.

Well, I cannot run the political machine; I have enough on my hands without *that*. It is the *people's* business—the election is in their hands. If they turn their backs to the fire and get scorched in the rear, they'll find they have got to sit on the blister.

At another time, referring to the probability of his renomination.

If the people think I have managed their "case" for them well enough to trust me to carry it up to the next term, I am sure I shall be glad to take it.

To an Ohio regiment he spoke as follows, September, 1864.

SOLDIERS:—I suppose you are going home to see your families and friends. For the services you have done in this great struggle in which we are engaged, I present you sincere thanks for myself and the country.

I almost always feel inclined, when I say any thing to soldiers, to impress upon them, in a few brief remarks, the importance of success in this contest. It is not merely for the day, but for all time to come, that we should perpetuate for our children's children that great and free government which we have enjoyed all our lives. I beg you to remember this, not merely for my sake, but for yours. I happen, temporarily, to occupy this big White House. I am a living witness that any one of your children may look to come here as my father's child has. It is in order that each one of you may have, through this free government which we have enjoyed, an open field and a fair chance for your industry, enterprise, and intelligence; that you may all have equal privileges in the race of life, with all its desirable human aspirations—it is for this that the struggle should be maintained, that we may not lose our birthrights, not only for one, but for two or three years, if necessary. The nation is worth fighting for to secure such an inestimable jewel.

Speech at a serenade, September, 1864.

SOLDIERS:—You are about to return to your homes and your friends, after having, as I learn, performed in camp a comparatively short term of duty in this great contest. I am greatly obliged to you, and to all who have come forward at the call of their country. I wish it might be more generally and universally understood what the country is now engaged in. We have, as all will agree, a free government, where every man has a right to be equal with every other man. In this great struggle the form of government and every form of human right is endangered if our enemies succeed. There is more involved in this contest than is realized by every one. There is involved in this struggle the question, whether your children and my children shall enjoy the privileges we have enjoyed. I say this in order to impress upon you, if you are not already so impressed, that no small matter should divert us from our great purpose.

There may be some inequalities in the practical application of our system. It is fair that each man shall pay taxes in exact proportion to the value of his property; but if we should wait, before collecting a tax, to adjust the taxes upon each man in exact proportion with every other man, we should never collect any tax at all. There may be mistakes made sometimes; things may be done wrong, while the officers of the government do all they can to prevent mistakes. But I beg of you, as citizens of this great republic, not to let your minds be carried off from the great work we have before us. This struggle is too large for you to be diverted from it by any small matter. When you return to your homes, rise up to the height of a generation of men worthy of a free government, and we will carry out the great work we have commenced. I return to you my sincere thanks, soldiers, for the honor you have done me this afternoon.

Col. H. S. Huidekoper and Judge Pettis of Meadville, Pa., persuaded Lincoln that it was desirable that certain rebel prisoners at Rock Island, Ill., be permitted to take the oath of allegiance and enter the Union army. To this end President Lincoln issued the following order:

Executive Mansion, Washington, D. C., September 1, 1864.

It is represented to me that there are at Rock Island, Ill. as rebel prisoners of war, many persons of northern and foreign birth, who are unwilling to be exchanged and sent south, but who wish to take the oath of allegiance and enter the military service of the Union. Colonel Huidekoper, on behalf of the people of some parts of Pennsylvania, wishes to pay the bounties the Government would have to pay to proper persons of this class, have them enter the service of the United States and be credited to the localities furnishing the bounty money. He will, therefore, proceed to Rock Island, ascertain the names of such persons (not including any who have attractions southward) and telegraph them to the provost marshal here, whereupon direction will be given to discharge the persons named upon their taking the oath of allegiance, and when they shall have been duly received and mustered into the service of the United States their number will be credited as may be directed by Colonel Huidekoper.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Both Provost Marshal General Fry and Secretary of War Stanton refused to honor this order. Colonel Huidekoper and Judge Pettis took the matter to Lincoln, who indorsed the following on the original paper:

The bearer will present the list of names contemplated within. The provost marshal-general will please take the proper steps to have them examined, mustered in and discharged from prison, so as to be properly credited; all according to the within.

A. LINCOLN.

September 20, 1864.

Lincoln in person accompanied Huidekoper and Pettis to the War Department, and Stanton again flatly refused to issue the order. Finally, Lincoln was left alone with the Secretary of War. The next day the order was issued by Stanton carrying out Lincoln's directions.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Sept. 8, 1864.

HON. SIMEON DRAPER

My dear Sir.

Allow me to introduce Gov. W. A. Newell of New-Jersey—

You know him by reputation. He and I were in Congress together sixteen years ago— He is a true friend of the Union, and every way a reliable gentleman. Please hear him whenever he calls.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Extract from the *New York World* of September 9, 1864: "While the President was driving over the field in an ambulance, accompanied by Marshal Lamon, General McClellan, and another officer, heavy details of men were engaged in the task of burying the dead. The ambulance had just reached the neighborhood of the old stone bridge, where the dead were piled highest, when Mr. Lincoln, suddenly slapping Marshal Lamon on the knee, exclaimed: 'Come, Lamon, give us that song about Picayune Butler; McClellan has never heard it.' 'Not now, if you please,' said General McClellan, with a shudder; 'I would prefer to hear it some other place and time.'"

This story had been repeated in the *New York World* almost daily for three months.

I wish to ask you, sir, in behalf of others as well as myself, whether any such occurrence took place; or if it did not take place, please to state who that "other officer" was, if there was any such, in the ambulance in which the President "was driving over the field (of Antietam) whilst details of men were engaged in the task of burying the dead."

Lincoln then took up a pen and wrote the following. It was to be copied by me and forwarded as my refutation of the slander:

Sept 10—1864

The President has known me intimately for nearly twenty years, and has often heard me sing little ditties. The battle of Antietam was fought on the 17th day of September 1862. On the first day of October, just two weeks after the battle, the President, with some others including myself, started from Washington to visit the Army, reaching Harper's Ferry at noon of that day. In a short while Gen. McClellan came from his Head Quar-

ters near the battle ground, joined the President, and with him, reviewed the troops at Bolivar Heights that afternoon; and, at night, returned to his Head Quarters, leaving the President at Harper's Ferry. On the morning of the second the President, with Gen. Sumner, reviewed the troops respectively at Loudon Heights and Maryland Heights, and at about noon, started to Gen. McClellan's Head Quarters, reaching there only in time to see very little before night. On the morning of the third all started on a review of the three corps, and the Cavalry, in the vicinity of the Antietam battle ground— After getting through with Gen. Burnside's Corps, at the suggestion of Gen. McClellan he and the President left their horses to be led, and went into an ambulance or ambulances to go to Gen. Fitz John Porter's Corps, which was two or three miles distant. I am not sure whether the President and Gen. Mc. were in the same ambulance, or in different ones; but myself and some others were in the same with the President. On the way, and on no part of this battle-ground, and on what suggestion I do not remember, the President asked me to sing the little sad song, that follows, which he had often heard me sing, and had always seemed to like very much— I sang them. After it was over, some one of the party, (I do not think it was the President) asked me to sing something else; and I sang two or three little comic things of which Picayune Butler was one— Porter's Corps was reached and reviewed; then the battle ground was passed over, and the most noted parts examined; then, in succession the Cavalry, and Franklin's Corps were reviewed, and the President and party returned to Gen. McClellan's Head Quarters at the end of a very hard, hot, and dirty day's work— Next day, the 4th the President and Gen. Mc. visited such of the wounded as still remained in the vicinity, including the now lamented Gen. Richardson; then proceeded to and examined the South-Mountain battle ground, at which point they parted, Gen. McClellan returning to his Camp, and the President returning to Washington, seeing, on the way, Gen. Hartsaff, who lay wounded at Frederick Town— This is the whole story of the singing and it's surroundings. Neither Gen. McClellan or any one else made any objection to the singing; the place was not on the battle field the time was sixteen days after this battle, no dead body was seen during the

whole time the president was absent from Washington, nor even a grave that had not been rained on since it was made.

"I've wandered to the village, Tom; I've sat beneath the tree
Upon the schoolhouse play-ground, that sheltered you and me;
But none were left to greet me, Tom, and few were left to know
Who played with us upon the green, some twenty years ago.

"Near by the spring, upon the elm you know I cut your name,—
Your sweetheart's just beneath it, Tom; and you did mine the same.
Some heartless wretch has peeled the bark,—'twas dying sure but
slow,
Just as she died whose name you cut, some twenty years ago.

"My lids have long been dry, Tom, but tears come to my eyes;
I thought of her I loved so well, those early broken ties;
I visited the old churchyard, and took some flowers to strew
Upon the graves of those we loved, some twenty years ago."

MY DEAR SIR: I understand a bill is before Congress by your instigation, for taking your office from the control of the Department of the Interior, and considerably enlarging the powers and patronage of your office. The proposed change may be right for aught I know, and it certainly is right for Congress to do as it thinks proper in the case. What I wish to say is, that if the change is made, I do not think I can allow you to retain the office; because that would be encouraging officers to be constantly intriguing, to the detriment of the public interest, in order to profit themselves.

Lincoln declined military escort in the following memorandum:

MY DEAR SIR: On reflection I think it will not do, as a rule, for the Adjutant-General to attend me wherever I go; not that I have any objection to his presence, but that it would be an uncompensating encumbrance both to him and to me. When it shall occur to me to go anywhere, I wish to be free to go at once, and not to have to notify the Adjutant-General and wait till he can get ready. It is better, too, for the public service that he shall give his time to the business of his office, and not to personal at-

tendance on me. While I thank you for the kindness of the suggestion, my view of the matter is as I have stated.

Reply to Thaddeus Stevens, Republican leader of the House:

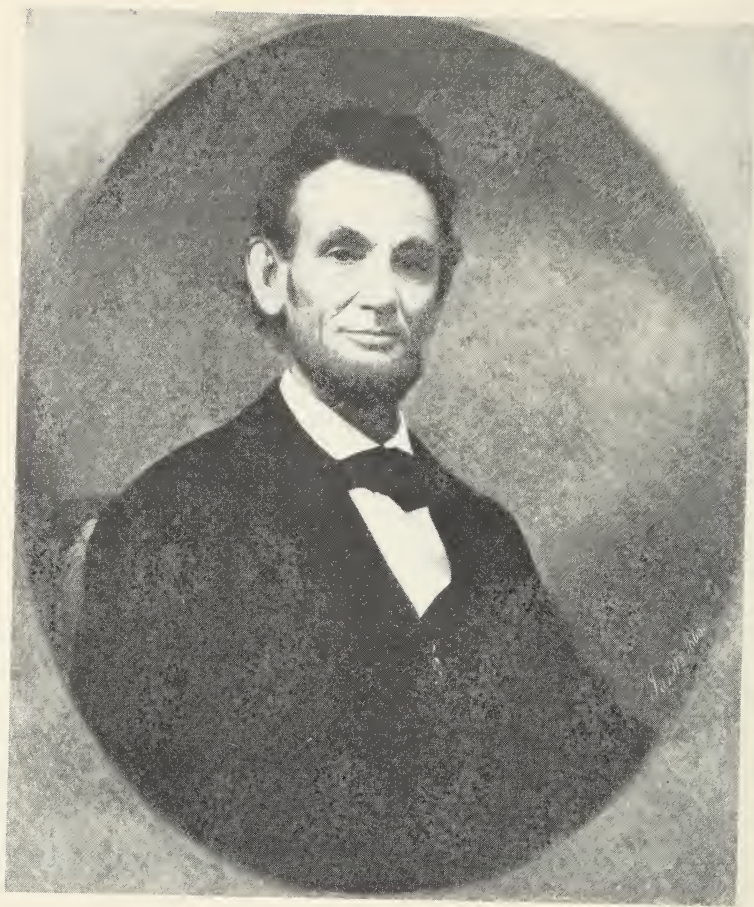
“Mr. Stevens, I am very sorry to be compelled to deny your request to make such a promise. If I were even myself inclined to make it, I have no right to do so. What right have I to promise you to remove Mr. Blair, and not make a similar promise to any other gentleman of influence to remove any other member of my cabinet whom he does not happen to like? The Republican party wisely or unwisely has made me their nominee for President, without asking any such pledge at my hands. Is it proper that you should demand it, representing only a portion of that great party? Has it come to this, that the voters of this country are asked to elect a man to be President—to be Executive—to administer the Government, and yet that this man is to have no will or discretion of his own? Am I to be the mere puppet of power? To have my constitutional advisers selected beforehand, to be told I must do this, or leave that undone? It would be degrading to my manhood to consent to any such bargain—I was about to say it is equally degrading to your manhood to ask it.

“I confess that I desire to be reelected. God knows I do not want the labor and responsibility of the office for another four years. But I have the common pride of humanity to wish my past four years’ administration endorsed; and besides I honestly believe that I can better serve the nation in its need and peril than any new man could possibly do. I want to finish this job of putting down the rebellion, and restoring peace and prosperity to the country. But I would have the courage to refuse the office rather than to accept on such disgraceful terms as really not to be President after I am elected.”

Colonel Dick Taylor, Democrat, candidate against Lincoln in 1838 for the Legislature had accused Lincoln of being a Whig aristocrat. Lincoln, after ripping open Taylor’s coat and exposing that gentleman’s shirt ruffles and jewelry, said

“While Colonel Taylor was making these charges against the Whigs over the country, riding in fine carriages, wearing ruffled shirts, kid gloves, massive gold chains with large gold seals, and flourishing a heavy gold-headed cane, I was a poor boy hired on a flatboat at eight dollars a month, and had only one pair of breeches to my back, and they were buckskin. Now if you know the nature of buckskin when wet and dried by the sun it will shrink; and my breeches kept shrinking until they left several inches of my legs bare between the tops of my socks and the lower part of my breeches; and whilst I was growing taller they were becoming shorter, and so much tighter that they left a blue streak around my legs that can be seen to this day. If you call this aristocracy I plead guilty to the charge.”

A striking incident in Mr. Lincoln's official life is related by Judge Bromwell, of Denver, who visited the White House in March, 1865. Mr. Seward and several other gentlemen were also present, and the President gradually came to talk on decisions of life and death. All other matters submitted to him, he declared, were nothing in comparison to these, and he added: “I reckon there never was a man raised in the country on a farm, where they are always butchering cattle and hogs and think nothing of it, that ever grew up with such an aversion to bloodshed as I have; and yet I've had more questions of life and death to settle in four years than all the men who ever sat in this chair put together. But I've managed to get along and do my duty, as I believe, and still save most of them; and there's no man knows the distress of my mind. But there have been some of them I couldn't save—there are some cases where the law must be executed. There was that man —, who was sentenced for piracy and slave trading on the high seas. That was a case where there must be an example, and you don't know how they followed and pressed to get him pardoned, or his sentence commuted; but there was no use of talking. It had to be done; I couldn't help him; and then there was that —, who was caught spying and recruiting within Pope's lines in Missouri. That was another case. They besieged me day and night, but I couldn't give way. We had come to a point where



Portrait by Charles Wesley Jarvis, 1865

something must be done that would put a stop to such work. And then there was this case of Beal, on the lakes. That was a case where there must be an example. They tried me every way. They wouldn't give up; but I had to stand firm on that, and I even had to turn away his poor sister when she came and begged for his life and let him be executed, and he was executed, and I can't get the distress out of my mind yet." As the kindly man uttered these words the tears ran down his cheeks, and the eyes of the men surrounding him moistened in sympathy. There was a profound silence in which they rose to depart. Three weeks after the President was killed.

"Washington, — 186—,

"Colonel Mulligan— If you haven't shot Barney D—— yet— don't.

A. LINCOLN."

This letter evidently referred to the Mason and Slidell episode in 1862. It reads:

I fear that the publication of a part of the intercepted correspondence just now may do harm, and I have to request you that, so far as in your power, you will suppress any further publication of any part of it, either here, at New York or elsewhere, for a few days.

A. LINCOLN.

A certain Northern regiment was wearing its heart out close to the border somewhere in Virginia, I think, and the boys were homesick and discontented, and one of them in particular sat around with his head in his hands and would not eat, and could not sleep, his tentmate said, and he went to the officer in charge and asked for a furlough, and the officer told him that the President had issued orders that there were to be no more furloughs for two years, and the boy groaned aloud and drew a letter from his pocket and handed it to the officer without a word.

It was a poor, little tear-stained letter, badly worded and badly spelled, and it told a poor, little, terrified, helpless story. It was from a girl in the little village back home, and the boy wanted to go home and marry her.

The officer took the letter and sent it by special courier to Washington to the President of the United States, and the President read it and turned it over and wrote on the back of it:

Dear Colonel: Let John go home and marry Mary.

A. LINCOLN.

Washington, September 24, 1864.

JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL

It is said that Simon Ready has recently been tried by one of our military courts in this city. I can tell no more of the case; but his poor wife is bothering me and I will thank you if practicable, to procure the record and report on the case.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Sep. 27, 1864.

PROVOST-MARSHAL GENERAL

Please let the appointment of Jacob R. Freese, as Commissioner of Board of Enrollment for 2nd Dist. of New-Jersey, in place of Mr. Wilson resigned, be made at once— Senator Ten Eyck is agreed to it. I have his letter to that effect, though I can not at this moment lay my hands on it.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

October 1, 1864.

“Understanding that persons giving credit in this case will have no strictly legal claim upon our government, yet the necessity for it is so great and urgent, that I shall most cheerfully urge upon Congress that such credit and claims fairly given and made shall be recognized and paid.”

Agent Henlan was instructed to buy on credit in New York,

thirty thousand dollars worth of clothing, and Coffin, in Kansas, \$175,000 worth of food.

War Department, Washington, D. C., October 1, 1864.

OFFICER IN COMMAND at Fort Monroe, Va.:

Is there a man by the name James Hallion (I think) under sentence? And what is his offense? What the sentence, and when to be executed?

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Oct. 4, 1864.

Upon condition that Roswell McIntyre of Co. E. 6th Regt. of New York Cavalry returns to his Regiment and faithfully serves out his term, making up for lost time, or until otherwise lawfully discharged, he is fully pardoned for any supposed desertion heretofore committed; and this paper is his pass to go to his regiment.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

This note accompanies the letter:

"Taken from the body of R. McIntyre at the battle of Five Forks, Va., 1865."

On October 11, 1864, state elections were held in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana. All three states went Republican, although the result in Pennsylvania was uncomfortably close.

Two days later, during his daily visit to the War Department telegraph office, Lincoln frankly discussed the approaching presidential election in the light of the returns from Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana. In the course of the discussion he reached for a cipher telegraph blank and wrote the following estimate of the electoral vote. The date, "October 13th," the headings, "*Supposed Copperhead Vote*," and "*Union Vote for President*," and "Nevada 11" are in the handwriting of Major Thomas T. Eckert, chief of the War Department Telegraph Staff.

Office U. S. Military Telegraph,
War Department
Washington, D. C. October 13th, 1864.

<i>Supposed Copperhead Vote.</i>		<i>Union Vote for President.</i>	
New-York	33	New England States	39
Penn	26	Michigan	8
New Jersey	7	Wisconsin	8
Delaware	3	Minnesota	4
Maryland	7	Iowa	8
Missouri	11	Oregon	3
Kentucky	11	California	5
Illinois	16	Kansas	3
—		Indiana	13
114		Ohio	21
		W. Virginia	5
		—	
			117
		Nevada	3
		—	
			120

The election proved that Lincoln's estimate was far too conservative. McClellan carried only New Jersey, Delaware and Kentucky, giving him but 21 electoral votes out of 233.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Oct. 18, 1864.

HON. HENRY W. HOFFMAN.

My dear Sir:—A convention of Maryland has formed a new constitution for the state; a public meeting is called for this evening at Baltimore, to aid in securing its ratification, and you ask a word from me for the occasion. I presume the only feature of the instrument about which there is serious controversy, is that which provides for the extinction of slavery.

It needs not to be a secret, and I presume it is no secret, that I wish success to this provision. I desire it on every consideration.

I wish to see all men free. I wish the national prosperity of the already free, which I feel sure the extinction of slavery would bring. I wish to see in progress of disappearing that only thing which could bring this nation to a civil war. I attempt no argument. Argument upon the question is already exhausted by the abler, better informed, and more immediately interested sons of

Maryland herself. I only add, that I shall be gratified exceedingly if the good people of the state shall, by their votes, ratify the new constitution.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

The letter to Lincoln was presented to him by the wife of Thomas Bennington who had been recently drafted into the Army of the Potomac. Bennington had previously offered himself as a volunteer and was rejected for physical disability. At that time he might have obtained a bounty of \$550. He was subsequently drafted and accepted.

Lincoln's memorandum reads as follows:

I do not think a man offering himself a volunteer when he could receive bounty & being rejected for disability should afterwards be compelled to serve without bounty as a drafted man. Let this man be discharged.

A. LINCOLN.

October 29, 1864.

Washington, D. C. — 1864

GENERAL BURBRIDGE, Lexington, Ky.

I hear that you arrested my relative, Mrs. Helm and released her on her showing you a letter from me. If it contains anything that allows her to talk or act treason, disregard it and treat her as you do other rebels.

A. LINCOLN.

George W. Glasscock, of Georgetown, Texas, has a letter written by Abraham Lincoln to his father before the Civil War. The senior Glasscock appears to have been a partner with Lincoln in the hoop pole business in the Sangamon River country in Illinois. The letter follows:

DEAR GEORGE:

Many years ago we dissolved our little partnership on the Sangamon River, settled our affairs and separated, you going to Missouri and thence to Texas to seek your fortune, and I remaining here. I do not know how fortune has favored you; it has me

far beyond my just deserts, and I am now in a position where I can help an old friend. If I can do anything for you let me know, for if the boy has made the man I thought he would he will not ask for anything I can not do.

Your old friend,

A. LINCOLN.

DEAR GOV. SEWARD—

If there be a consul at St. Helena—"mind you," he added aloud to the man, "I don't wholly give up my contention"—I wish you would appoint the bearer, particularly because he comes from Thad Stevens who has not troubled us much of late.

A. LINCOLN.

B. B. French, Commissioner of Buildings of Washington in the Lincoln administration, following the reelection of Lincoln in November, 1864, received the following from the White House:

If Commissioner of Public Buildings chooses to give laborers at White House a holiday I have no objections.

A. LINCOLN.

November 9, 1864.

Nov. 10, 1864.

SEC. STANTON:

This lady would be appointed Chaplain of the First Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, only that she is a woman. The President has not legally anything to do with such a question, but has no objection to her appointment.

A. LINCOLN.

(Miss Ella E. Gibson)

Yes, we may all congratulate ourselves that this cruel war is nearing its close. It has cost a vast amount of treasure and blood. The best blood of the flower of American youth has been freely offered upon our country's altar that the nation might live. It has been indeed a trying hour for the republic; but I see in the near future a crisis approaching that unnerves me and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country.

As a result of the war, corporations have been enthroned and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money

power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all wealth is aggregated in a few hands, and the Republic is destroyed. I feel at this moment more anxiety for the safety of my country than ever before, even in the midst of war. God grant that my suspicions may prove groundless.

Executive Mansion, Nov 29th

Will Col Lamon please see, what at present prices, the feed for two horses & two ponies, would cost, per month.

A. LINCOLN.

On December 7, 1864, Benjamin R. Lossing, the historian, called on the President with Congressman Arnold of Illinois, and asked Lincoln himself to tell the story of that famous, though up to that time mysterious trip from Harrisburg to Washington in 1861. Lossing had his notebook with him and transcribed what Lincoln had to say on the subject, and we quote the entire entry in that book:

“I called on President Lincoln with Congressman I. N. Arnold of Ill. at 9:30. Met him in the Cabinet Council Room alone. He endorsed on the Permit of the War Department, his recommendation of me, to the courtesies of all public offices in the Service. At my request he gave me an account of his journey through Baltimore to Washington, as follows:

“I arrived at Philadelphia. Agreed to stop over night, and on the following day hoist the flag over Independence Hall. In the evening there was a great crowd, and I received my friends. I received a message from Mr. Judd, of Chicago, a warm personal friend, asking me to come to his room. I went, and found there only Mr. Judd and Mr. Pinkerton, the latter a detective whom I had seen in Chicago. He had been employed for some days, in watching or searching for suspicious or expected suspicious movements in Baltimore, in connection with my passage through, the time of which was known from public announcement.

“Pinkerton informed me that a plan was prepared for my assassination. He knew of the plan, but was not sure the conspirators would have pluck enough to execute it. He wanted me to go

with him right through to Washington that night. I didn't like that. I had made engagements to visit Harrisburg, and go from there to Baltimore, and I wished to do so. I made arrangements, however, with Mr. Judd for me to return to Philadelphia the next night, if I shall be convinced there was danger in going through Baltimore the next day. I told him that if I should meet at Harrisburg, as I had other places, a delegation to go with me to the next place (thru Baltimore) I should feel safe and go on. When I was making my way back to my room through crowds, I met Fred Seward. We went together to my room and he told me that he had been sent at the instance of his father and General Scott to inform me that their detectives in Baltimore had discovered a plot there to assassinate me. They knew nothing of Pinkerton's movements. I now believed such a plot to be in existence.

"The next morning I raised the flag at Independence Hall, went on to Harrisburg with Mr. Sumner, (now) General Sumner, Ward H. Lamon and others; met the Legislature and people, dined and waited until the appointed time for me to leave.

"In the meantime Mr. Judd had so secured the telegraph wires that no communication could pass to Baltimore, and give the conspirators knowledge of the change in my plans.

"In New York some friend had presented me a new beaver hat, in a box, and in it had placed a soft wool hat. I never wore one in my life. I had this box in my room. Having informed a very few friends of the secret of my movements, and the cause, I put on an old overcoat that I had with me, and putting the soft hat in my pocket, I walked out of the house at a back door, without exciting any special curiosity. Then, I put on the soft hat, and joined my friends, without being recognized. I was not the same man. Sumner and Hunter wished to accompany me. I said no, you are known, and your presence may betray me. I will only take Lamon (now Marshal Lamon of the District of Columbia), whom nobody knows, and Mr. Judd; Sumner and Hunter felt hurt.

"We went back to Philadelphia and found a message from Pinkerton, who had returned to Baltimore, that the conspirators had held their final meeting that evening, and it was doubtful whether they had the nerve to attempt the execution of their

purpose. I went on, however, as the arrangement had been made. It was a Special train. We were sometime in the depot at Baltimore, I heard people talking around, but no one particularly observed me. Thus I arrived, unexpectedly in Washington.' ”

Chicago, Illinois, December, 1864.

COLONEL E. D. TAYLOR,

I have long determined to make public the origin of the greenback, and tell the world that it is one of Dick Taylor's creations. You have always been friendly to me, and when troublous times fell upon us, and my shoulders, though broad and willing, were weak and myself surrounded by such circumstances and such people that I knew not whom to trust, then I said in my extremity, "I will send for Colonel Taylor; he will know what to do." I think it was in January, 1862, on or about the 16th, that I did so. You came, and I said to you, "What shall we do?" Said you, "Why, issue treasury notes bearing no interest, printed on the best banking paper. Issue enough to pay off the army expenses, and declare it a legal tender." Chase thought it a hazardous thing, but we finally accomplished it, and gave to the people of this Republic the greatest blessing they ever had—their own paper to pay off their own debts. It is due to you, the father of the present greenback, that the people should know it, and I take great pleasure in making it known. How many times I have laughed at you telling me plainly that I was too lazy to be anything but a lawyer.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

Mr. Lincoln, lawyer-like, appears never to have taken anything for granted in the cases submitted, and no matter what his ultimate intentions were, he never concluded a case without proper inquiry. Abraham Samuels was caught passing through the Union lines to obtain medical supplies for the Southern army; but an application for his release asserted that his real purpose was to escape from the South. Mr. Lincoln indorsed:

Dec. 10—1864

It is confessed in this case that Samuels, when arrested, had on his person a paper *prima facie* showing that he was going North to obtain medical supplies for the rebels. Will the officer in command at Fort Monroe please give him an opportunity of trying to prove that this was not his real object, and report the evidence, with his opinion on it, to me?

A. LINCOLN.

MEMORANDUM IN LINCOLN'S HANDWRITING

The draft matter complained of by Gov. Fenton is this, that in giving credit for part calls *one* three-years man is counted equal to *three* one-year men, while on the pending call each man is to count *one* and *only* one, whether he went for one, two, or three years. The practical difficulty may be illustrated by the following supposed case. The towns of A & B, before any enlisted, had each 100 men. On the late call A gave sixty-six *one* year men, leaving only 34 at home, while B gave 33 three-years men, leaving 67 at home. On the pending call each owes 100 men, subject to its credit. But while A gets credit for 66, it owes 34, taking the last man in it; while B gets credit for 99, owes one, and has sixty-six left quietly at home. This ugly conjunction occurs in some sort accidentally, some towns putting in one years men and others three years men, while attaching no consequence to the difference, but which now burthens the one class absolutely beyond their immediate power to bear. While the above is only a supposed case, I am told there are realities that are even stranger, when there are not men enough in the town to answer its quota. It gives no present relief that the one year men are to come home sooner than the three year men, as the former . . .

To a prominent lady, in the winter of 1864, who requested the suppression of a certain influential Chicago newspaper.

I fear you do not fully comprehend the danger of abridging the liberties of the people. Nothing but the very sternest necessity can ever justify it. A government had better go to the very extreme of toleration than to do aught that could be construed

into an interference with, or to jeopardize in any degree, the common rights of its citizens.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Dec. 30, 1864.

MR. E. C. MIDDLETON

Dear Sir:

Your picture presented by Mr. Lutz is, in the main, very good. From a line across the eyebrows, downward it appears to me perfect. Above such line I think it is not so good,—that is, while it gives perhaps a better forehead, it is not quite true to the original. If you were present I could tell you wherein, but I can not well do so on paper. The next best thing I suppose would be to carefully study a photograph.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Jan. 20, 1865.

MAJOR GENERAL REYNOLDS—

It would appear by the accompanying papers that Mrs. Mary E. Morton is the owner, independently of her husband, of a certain building, premises and furniture, which she, with her children, has been occupying and using peaceably during the war, until recently, when the Provost-Marshal, has, in the name of the U. S. Government, seized the whole of said property, and ejected her from it. It also appears by her statement to me, that her husband went off in the rebellion at the beginning, wherein he still remains.

It would seem that this seizure has not been made for any military object, as for a place of storage, a hospital, or the like, because this would not have required the seizure of the furniture, and especially not the return of furniture previously taken away.

The seizure must have been on some claim *confiscation*, a matter of which the courts, and *not* the Provost-Marshal, or other military officers are to judge. In this very case, would probably be the questions “Is either the husband or wife a traitor?” “Does the property belong to the husband or to the wife?” “Is the property of the wife confiscable for the treason of the husband?” and other similar questions, all which it is ridiculous for a Provost-Marshal to assume to decide. The true rule for the Military is

to seize such property as is needed for military use and reasons and let the rest alone. Cotton and other staple articles of commerce are seizable for military reasons. Dwelling houses and furniture are seldom so. If Mrs. Morton is playing traitor, to the extent of practical injury, seize her, but leave her home to the Court. Please review and adjust this case upon these principles.

Yours etc

A. LINCOLN.

In reply to a delegation of ladies and gentlemen from Philadelphia, who presented a vase of leaves from the battlefield of Gettysburg, January 25, 1865.

I accept, with emotions of profoundest gratitude, the beautiful gift you have been pleased to present to me. You will, of course, expect that I acknowledge it. So much has been said about Gettysburg, and so well said, that for me to attempt to say any more may, perhaps, only serve to weaken the force of that which has already been said. A most graceful and eloquent tribute was paid to the patriotism and self-denying labors of the American ladies, on the occasion of the consecration of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, by our illustrious friend, Edward Everett, now, alas! departed from earth. His life was truly a great one, and I think the greatest part of it was that which crowned its closing years. I wish you to read, if you have not already done so, the glowing and eloquent and truthful words which he then spoke of the women of America. Truly, the service they have rendered to the defenders of our country in this perilous time, and are yet rendering, can never be estimated as it ought to be. For your kind wishes to me, personally, I beg leave to render you, likewise, my sincerest thanks. I assure you they are reciprocated. And now, gentlemen and ladies, may God bless you all.

Executive Mansion, Washington, Jan. 25, 1865.

HON. SECRETARY OF WAR.

My dear Sir.

About Jews, I wish you would give Dr. Zacharie a pass to go to Savannah, remain a week and return, bringing with him, if he

wishes, his father and sisters or any of them. This will spare me trouble and oblige me. I promised him long ago that he should be allowed this whenever Savannah should fall into our hands.

Blumenberg, at Baltimore. I think he should have a hearing. He has suffered for us & served us well—had the rope around his neck for being our friend—raised troops—fought, and been wounded. He should not be dismissed in a way that ruins him without a hearing.

Yours truly

A. LINCOLN.

January 29, 1865.

On the evening of Sunday, January 29, 1865, the United States Christian Commission held its third anniversary meeting in Washington. William H. Seward presided. On the back of the program Lincoln pencilled the following note, remarkable for the omission of the initial letter from the signature.

Near the close let us have "Your Mission" repeated by Mr. Philips. Dont say I called for it

LINCOLN.

A manuscript memo. relating to one of the many attempts to draw President Lincoln into communication with the Confederate government on the basis of preparing some plans for peace. "After inquiry, I believe it is true that a man calling himself J. Wesley Greene, and professing to reside at Pittsburg, Pa., called on the President some time in November, and stated to him that he, Greene, had had two interviews with Jeff. Davis, at Richmond, Va., on the last day of October; and also related certain statements which he said Davis had made to him upon the occasion. The President became satisfied that Greene had not seen Davis at all, and that the whole thing was a very shallow attempt at humbuggery. Jeff. Davis can redeem Greene's character if he will, by verifying his statement."

February, 1865.

In reply to Mr. Hunter, February 3, 1865, who stated that as slaves were accustomed to work under compulsion, by being sud-

denly freed it would bring ruin on the South, and whites and blacks would starve together.

I can only say, in reply to your statement of the case, that it reminds me of a man out in Illinois, by the name of Case, who undertook, a few years ago, to raise a very large herd of hogs. It was a great trouble to feed them; and how to get around this was a puzzle to him. At length he hit upon the plan of planting an immense field of potatoes, and, when they were sufficiently grown, he turned the whole herd into the field and let them have full swing, thus saving not only the labor of feeding the hogs, but that also of digging the potatoes! Charmed with his sagacity, he stood one day leaning against the fence, counting his hogs, when a neighbor came along. "Well, well," said he, "Mr. Case, this is all very fine. Your hogs are doing very well just now; but you know out here in Illinois the frost comes early, and the ground freezes a foot deep. Then what are you going to do?" This was a view of the matter which Mr. Case had not taken into account. Butchering time for hogs was away on in December or January. He scratched his head and at length stammered, "Well, it may come pretty hard on their snouts, but I don't see but it will be root, hog, or die."

Executive Mansion, Washington, February 6, 1865.

PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL:

These gentlemen distinctly say to me this morning that what they want is the means from your office of showing their people that the quota assigned to them is right. They think it will take but little time—two hours, they say. Please give them double the time and every facility you can.

Yours, truly,

A. LINCOLN.

February 6, 1865.

The Provost-Marshal brings this letter back to me and says he cannot give the facility required without detriment to the service, and thereupon he is excused from doing it.

A. LINCOLN.

Executive Mansion, Washington 7 February, 1865.

MY DEAR MR. GARRISON

I have your kind letter of the 21st of January, and can only beg that you will pardon the seeming neglect occasioned by my constant engagements. When I received the spirited and admirable painting "Waiting for the Hour" I directed my Secretary not to acknowledge its arrival at once, preferring to make my personal acknowledgment of the thoughtful kindness of the donors; and waiting for some leisure hour, I have committed the discourtesy of not replying at all.

I hope you will believe that my thanks though late, are most cordial, and I request that you will convey them to those associated with you in this flattering and generous gift.

I am very truly

Your friend and Servant

A. LINCOLN.

WM. LLOYD GARRISON Esq

Senator Charles Sumner in 1865 opposed Lincoln's Louisiana Reconstruction bill and led a successful filibuster against it in the closing hours of the 38th Congress. Sumner did not expect friendly overtures from Lincoln following that opposition. But Lincoln invited him in a formal note, March 5, 1865, to attend the inauguration ball, and said he would send his carriage to get him. Apparently Sumner did not accept the invitation. On the afternoon of the 6th Lincoln sent the following:

DEAR MR. SUMNER:—

Unless you send me word to the contrary, I shall this evening call with my carriage at your house, to take you with me to the Inauguration Ball.

Sincerely Yours,

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Sumner entered the ballroom with Mrs. Lincoln on his arm and took his seat by the side of the President.

Head Quarters Armies of the United States,
City-Point, April 1, 5:30, 1865.

HON. W. H. SEWARD
Fort-Monroe, Va.

Despatch just received, showing that Sheridan, aided by Warren, had at 2 P. M. pushed the enemy back so as to retake the five forks, and bring his own Head Quarters up to J. Boissan's. The five forks were barricaded by the enemy, and carried by Diven's Division of Cavalry. This part of the enemy seem to now be trying to work along the White Oak Road, to join the main force in front of Grant, while Sheridan & Warren are pressing them as closely as possible.

A. LINCOLN.

To some colored people who knelt at his feet and thanked him for their freedom at Richmond, Virginia, April 4, 1865, the day after the evacuation of the city, Lincoln said:

Don't kneel to me—that is not right. You must kneel to God only, and thank him for the liberty you will hereafter enjoy. I am but God's humble instrument; but you may rest assured that as long as I live no one shall put a shackle on your limbs, and you shall have all the rights which God has given to any other free citizen of this republic.

Lincoln also said to another group:

My colored friends, I'm glad I have seen you at your own homes and that you have had a chance to see me. You are now as free as I am—even freer—for you have less care and worry; now use your freedom well—be industrious—be honest, be peaceable, and let the white people see that you can succeed with your liberty. Now go back to your work—I must go back to mine—part of it is on your account—and you must not hinder me. So God bless you, and let me pass on.



Portrait by Albion H. Bicknell, 1864
(In the State House, Boston)

Remarks in response to an immense multitude gathered before the White House, April 10, 1865.

I am very greatly rejoiced that an occasion has occurred so pleasurable that the people can't restrain themselves. I suppose that arrangements are being made for some sort of formal demonstration, perhaps this evening or to-morrow night. If there should be such a demonstration I, of course, shall have to respond to it, and I shall have nothing to say if I dribble it out before. I see you have a band. I propose now closing up by requesting you to play a certain air, or tune. I have always thought "Dixie" one of the best tunes I ever heard. I have heard that our adversaries over the way have attempted to appropriate it as a national air. I insisted yesterday that we had fairly captured it. I presented the question to the Attorney General, and he gave his opinion that it is our lawful prize. I ask the band to give us a good turn upon it.

To a large crowd assembled in front of the Executive Mansion late in afternoon, April 10, 1865.

I am informed that you have assembled here this afternoon under the impression that I had made an appointment to speak at this time. This is a mistake. I have made no such an appointment. More or less persons have been gathered here at different times during the day, and in the exuberance of their feeling, and for all of which they are greatly justified, calling upon me to say something, and I have, from time to time, been sending out what I suppose was proper to disperse them for the present. I said to a larger audience this morning what I desire now to repeat. It is this: That I supposed, in consequence of the glorious news we have been receiving lately, there is to be some general demonstration, either on this or to-morrow evening when I shall be expected, I presume, to say something. Just here I will remark that I would much prefer having this demonstration take place to-morrow evening, as I would then be much better prepared to say what I have to say than I am now or can be this evening. I therefore say to you that I shall be quite willing, and I hope ready, to say something then; whereas, just now, I am not ready to say something that one in my position ought to say. Everything I say, you know, goes into print. If I make a mistake it doesn't merely affect me, or

you, but the country. I, therefore, ought at least try not to make mistakes. If, then, a general demonstration be made to-morrow evening, and it is agreeable, I will endeavor to say something, and not make a mistake, without at least trying carefully to avoid it. Thanking you for the compliment of this call, I bid you good evening.

April 12—1865

Coming into the drawing-room that night, after a little company of friends of the family had dined together, he laid a roll of manuscript on a table, and, noticing a look of surprise on the countenance of one of these, he said:

“I know what you are thinking about. You think it mighty queer that an old stump-speaker like myself should not be able to address a crowd like this outside without a written speech. But you must remember I am, in a certain way, talking to the country, and I have to be mighty careful. Now, the last time I made an off-hand speech, in answer to a serenade, I used the phrase, as applied to the Rebels, ‘turned tail and ran.’ Some very nice Boston folks, I am grieved to hear, were very much outraged by that phrase, which they thought improper. So I resolved to make no more impromptu speeches if I could help it.”

Executive Mansion, Washington, April 13, 1865.

HON. SEC. OF THE TREASURY.

Dear Sir:

The office of Collector of Internal Revenue for the Fifth Collection District of California is vacant by the resignation of Charles Maltby. I would like to oblige General Schenck by the appointment of his nephew, William C. S. Smith, long a resident of the District, to fill the vacancy. I am satisfied that he is competent, and of good character, and that his appointment will be satisfactory in the District and State. Unless you know some valid objection, send me an appointment for him.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

April 13th 1865.

A paper, prepared by Lincoln in which he gave his views upon the subject of peace and restoration on the 13th of April, 1865.

"1. As to peace, I have said before, and now repeat, that three things are indispensable: The restoration of the national authority throughout all the States.

2. No receding by the executive of the United States on the slavery question from the position assumed thereon in the late annual message to congress, and in preceding documents.

3. No cessation of hostilities short of an end of hostilities and the disbanding of all forces hostile to the government.

That all propositions coming from those now in hostility to the government, and not inconsistent with the foregoing, will be respectfully considered and passed upon in a spirit of sincere liberality. I now add that it seems useless for me to be more specific with those who will not say that they are ready for the indispensable terms, even on condition to be named by themselves.

If there be any who are ready for those indispensable terms on any condition whatever, let them say so, and state their conditions, so that such conditions can be strictly known and considered. It is further added, that the remission of confiscation being within the executive power, if the war be now further persisted in by those opposing the government, the making of confiscated property, at the least, to bear the additional cost will be insisted on; but that confiscations (except in case of third party intervening interests) will be remitted to the people of any state which shall now promptly and in good faith withdraw its troops and other supports from further resistance to the government. What is now said as to remission of confiscation has no reference to supposed property in slaves."

To Honorable Schuyler Colfax, on the fatal 14th of April, 1865, the day of the assassination. Mr. Colfax was about starting to the far-off western country.

Mr. Colfax, I want you to take a message from me to the miners whom you visit. I have very large ideas of the mineral wealth of our Nation. I believe it practically inexhaustible. It abounds all over the Western country—from the Rocky Mountains to the

Pacific, and its development has scarcely commenced. During the war, when we were adding a couple of millions of dollars every day to our National debt, I did not care about encouraging the increase in the volume of our precious metals. We had the country to save first. But now that the Rebellion is overthrown, and we know pretty nearly the amount of our National debt, the more gold and silver we mine makes the payment of that debt so much the easier. Now I am going to encourage that in every possible way. We shall have hundreds of thousands of disabled soldiers, and many have feared that their return home in such great numbers might paralyze industry by furnishing suddenly a greater supply of labor than there will be a demand for. I am going to try to attract them to the hidden wealth of our mountain ranges, where there is room enough for all. . . . Tell the miners for me that I shall promote their interests to the utmost of my ability, because their prosperity is the prosperity of the Nation; and we shall prove, in a very few years, that we are indeed the treasury of the world.

To Senator Wm. M. Stewart of Nevada on April 14, 1865, he said:

I am engaged to go to the theater with Mrs. Lincoln. It is the kind of an engagement I never break. Come with your friend tomorrow at ten and I shall be glad to see you.

A. LINCOLN.

RECEPTION OF THE BRITISH MINISTER

On the very eve of his violent death Lincoln wrote one paper which exhibited the candor, the wisdom, and the kindness of his soul in a notable manner, and which showed that his last proclamation was instigated by no petty spite, no desire to humiliate, no wish to provoke hostile feeling. Lord Lyons had resigned, and Sir Frederick Bruce had been sent to represent the British Government at Washington. He was about to present his credentials; his reception for the purpose of presenting his letters was to have taken place on Saturday, April 15th, and Mr. Lincoln, having received an intimation of what Sir Frederick would say on that occasion, wrote out on the afternoon of the 14th his proposed reply. He never made it. The British minister did not present his creden-

tials until some days after Mr. Lincoln's death. The speech which the President made in reply impressed the whole country and Europe by its dignity, its good sense, its candor, and its generosity. There is the highest authority for saying that this speech is the one written by Mr. Lincoln, and that being found in his portfolio, it was wisely adopted, with its writer's policy, by Mr. Johnson, and read to the British minister by a Secretary. Thus Mr. Lincoln actually stretched out his hand from beyond the grave to guide the course of the Republic which he had done so much to save, and by his services to which he earned his crown of martyrdom. The reply in question here follows:

*Sir Frederick A. W. Bruce—Sir:—*The cordial and friendly sentiments which you have expressed on the part of Her Britannic Majesty give me great pleasure. Great Britain and the United States, by the extended and varied forms of commerce between them, the contiguity of positions of their possessions, and the similarity of their language and laws, are drawn into contrast and intimate intercourse at the same time. They are from the same causes exposed to frequent occasions of misunderstanding, only to be averted by mutual forbearance. So eagerly are the people of the two countries engaged throughout almost the whole world in the pursuit of similar commercial enterprises, accompanied by natural rivalries and jealousies, that at first sight it would almost seem that the two Governments must be enemies, or at best, cold and calculating friends. So devoted are the two nations throughout all their domain, and even in their most remote territorial and colonial possessions, to the principles of civil rights and constitutional liberty, that, on the other hand, the superficial observer might erroneously count upon a continued concert of action and sympathy, amounting to an alliance between them. Each is charged with the development of the progress and liberty of a considerable portion of the human race. Each, in its sphere, is subject to difficulties and trials, not participated in by the other. The interest of civilization and of humanity require that the two should be friends. I have always known and accepted it as a fact, honorable to both countries, that the Queen of England is a sincere and honest well-wisher to the United States. I have been equally frank and explicit in the opinion that the

friendship of the United States toward Great Britain is enjoined by all the considerations of interest and of sentiment affecting the character of both. You will therefore be accepted as a minister friendly and well-disposed to the maintenance of peace and the honor of both countries. You will find myself and all my associates acting in accordance with the same enlightened policy and consistent sentiments; and so I am sure that it will not occur in your case that either yourself or this Government will ever have cause to regret that such an important relationship existed at such a crisis.

Let Thomas Geary be discharged from the service on refunding any bounty received.

A. LINCOLN.

April 14, 1865.

Signed, on the back of a four-page letter of Rev. S. D. Herron, dated Washington City, April 13, 1865. Lincoln's endorsement reads as follows:

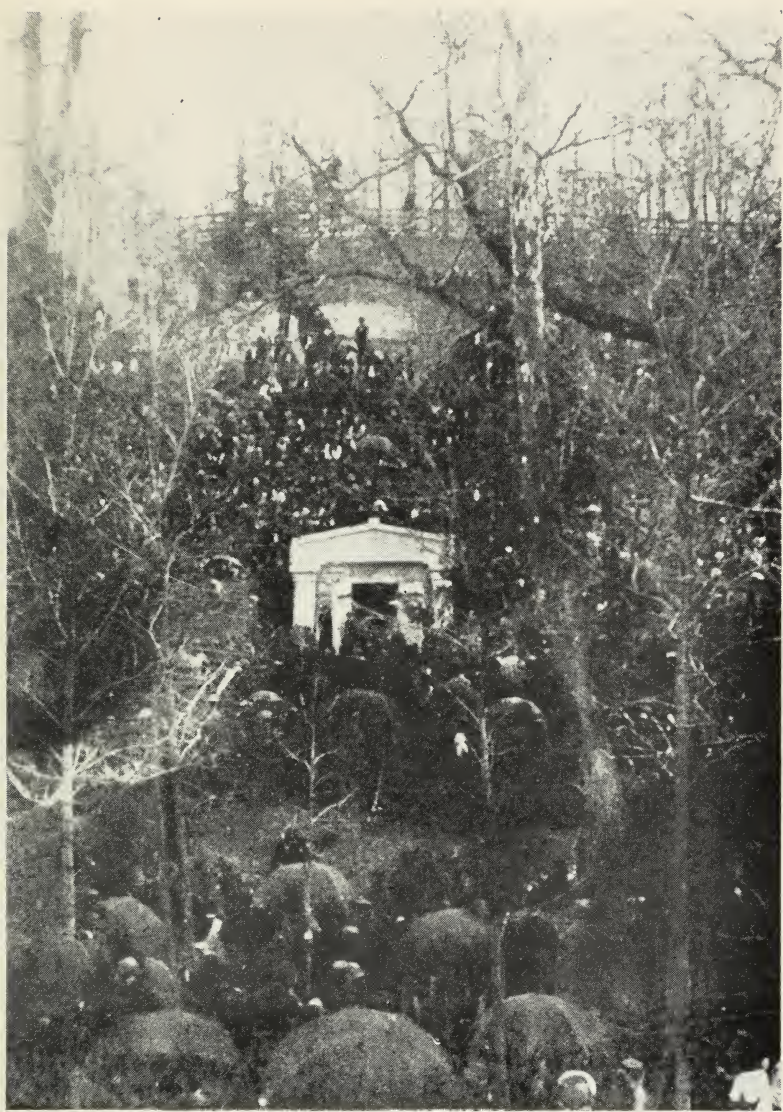
"Let this Prisoner be discharged on taking the oath of Dec 8 1863. A. LINCOLN April 14 1865."

This letter is from a noted Methodist clergyman, S. D. Herron, asking Lincoln to extend his pardon to George S. Herron, Company C, First Maryland Cavalry, a Confederate soldier from Maryland, who was captured in August, 1864, then confined at Camp Chase, where he was in the hospital dangerously ill, and anxious to take the oath of allegiance.

List of Letters and Documents in the Lincoln Collection in the Library of Congress and not published in Nicolay and Hay. The deed of gift from Robert T. Lincoln providing that the collection is not to be open for examination until the expiration of twenty-five years after the donor's death.

(Numbers on extreme left preceding each item indicate the folders in this collection in which each item is found.)

46. 1859., Feb. 22nd. Veto Message to House of Representatives, Illinois, written by Mr. Lincoln and signed by Wm. H. Bissell.



The Interment of President Lincoln
May 4, 1865

- 46. 1858, July 24th. Copy, in Mr. Lincoln's writing, of letter from Greeley to Medill.
- 8. 1860. Miscellaneous, including the first draft of the first paragraph of the first inaugural address.
- 44. 1860, July. Copy of letter from Putnam to Leonard Swett.
- 49. 1860, Sept. 22nd. G. Yoke Tams. Tariff Protection of American Industry.
- 49. 1860, Oct. 18. Copies. Grace Bedell—About beard—Mr. L's reply.
- 44. 1860, October 24th. Promise to pay freight charges, \$4.00 for a lady.
- 49. 1861, Jan. 21st. Hon. Simon Cameron: "I shall be obliged if you will visit me again in this place." Envelope has this notation: "Found sealed, and opened by me September 26th, 1878. Jno. G. Nicolay."
- 50. Dec. '60/'61. Invitation for journey to W. Va.
- 10. 1861, Feb. —. Drafts of replies to invitations to visit various cities during journey to Washington; Notes for speeches, Cincinnati; —, Ind.; and Pittsburgh.
- 67. 1861, February. Proofs of First Inaugural.
- 44. 1861, Feb. 11th. Pencil draft of Farewell Address, Springfield. For circumstances of writing see Nicolay & Hay's Life.
- 11. 1861, Feb. Revised proofs First Inaugural Address. Letter from O. H. Browning, Feb. 17th, 1861. Manuscript of Seward's suggestion for closing paragraph.
- 48. 1861, April 8th. Envelope addressed to President Lincoln, having upon it this note: "Greeley, Opdycke, Field & Wadsworth, in favor of having the two big puddings on the same side of the board."
- 49. 1861, April 9. Note to James Short.
- 49. 1861, April 15. To Gen. Scott about Col. Washington.
- 51A. 1861, Apr. 15. Whiting Papers relating to Ft. Sumter & Major Anderson.
- 51A. Say about Apr. 15-61, M. Anderson Ft. Sumter Original Manuscripts, *residential*. Notes as to various appointments, Military: Including the following memoranda: "List of officers I wish to remember when I make appointments from the officers of the regular army—Maj. Anderson, Capt. Doubleday, Capt. Foster, Maj. Hunter and Lieut. Slemmer— His pretty wife says a Major or First Captain."
- 15. 1861, May 3rd. Autograph signature of Abraham Lincoln to proclamation for increase of regular army and navy.
- 49. 1861, May 6th. Otho Scott and others, commissioners Maryland

Legislature. Military use or occupation of the soil and property of the State of Maryland.

66. 1861, July 6. Jefferson Davis to A. L. Savannah Privateers.
20. 1862, May 19th. Draft of proclamation, annulling the orders of Major General Hunter declaring the States of Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina under Martial Law, and declaring all slaves in those states forever free.
51. 1861, June 17th. Governor Richard Yates; promotion of Capt. Pope to Brigadier General.
49. 1861, July 29. Endorsement about arms.
51. 1861, July 31st. Endorsement to Gen. Fremont, upon letter from Hon. J. M. Palmer, as to preserving Missouri to the Union.
51. 1861, Aug. 14th. Commending Henry Villard, newspaper correspondent.
51. 1861, Aug. 29th. Endorsement to Gen. Scott on letter from N. P. Trist.
51. 1861, Sept. 7th. Endorsement to Adjutant General in reference to Captain Wilkinson's commission.
51. 1861, Sept. 7th. Memorandum, interview with Philip L. Fox, relative to purchasing arms in Europe.
51. 1861, Sept. 24th. List of Fremont's forces.
51. 1861, Sept. 24th. Memorandum; purchase of artillery.
51. 1861, Oct. 12th. Memorandum as to request of B. C. Cook for appointment of John Spicer as Q. M. or Commissary.
51. 1861, Oct. 12th. Memorandum as to desire of Charles Emenwein, Bavarian Officer, for some position in the military service.
49. 1861, Oct. 16th. Memorandum as to some appointment for Frank E. Foster.
51. 1861, Oct. 24th. "Fragment of Original letter of Lincoln to Hunter."
51. 1861, Nov. 3rd. Gen. William Strong, advising that Gen. McClellan is in command of substantially the whole army.
51. 1861, Nov. 26th. Endorsement upon letter from James Guthrie to J. F. Speed;—making Buell Major General and appointing half a dozen more brigadier generals for Kentucky.
51. 1861, Nov. 27th. Endorsement to Gen. McClellan of letters from Mr. Guthrie and Mr. Speed, containing campaign suggestions for military force in Mississippi territory.
51. 1861, Dec. 5. Endorsement as to ineligibility of G. H. Palmer to Military Academy on account of age.
51. 1861, Dec. 19th. Gen. McClellan, recommending purchase of 50 "coffee mill" guns.

51. 1861, Dec. 27, Endorsement commending man, "the writer."
51. 1862, Dec. 22nd. Gen. Franklin and Gen. Smith, plan of operation, Army of Potomac. (Not found in proper place.)
18. 1861, Dec. 26th. Draft of reply to Earl Russell's despatch to Lord Lyons, on the Trent Affair. Seizure of Mason and Slidell.
18. 1861. Dec. 26th. Letters from Prince de Joinville, Thurlow Weed and others.
49. 1861, December. Endorsement to Secretary of State; Letter from Chas. H. Middleton. About a *white* negro escaped slave.
49. 1861, Dec. 30th. Endorsement to Attorney General; as to proposed court in Arkansas.
52. 1862, Jan. 22nd. Gen. McClellan; case of Gen. Benham.
52. 1862, Mar. 14th. Memoranda as to next three appointments, Military Academy.
55. 1862, March 18th. Endorsement, directing appointment of M. J. Grelish, Forage Master, Fort Leavenworth.
19. 1862, May 6th. Draft of message to Congress, recommending joint resolution of co-operation in gradual abolishment of slavery.
52. 1862, May 29th. Copy of report from Gen. Fremont.
53. 1862, June 2. Endorsement on letter of Mr. Seward "Profoundly laid by."
52. 1862, July 8th. Inquiries and answers as to conditions in Gen. McClellan's command.
52. 1862, July 16. Copy made by President Lincoln of letter to him from Reverdy Johnson, from New Orleans.
55. 1862, Aug. Memorandum, appointment of collector, New York.
55. 1862, Aug. 21st. Memorandum of conference with Hon. F. A. Conkling, as to Collector's appointment in 6th District, New York.
53. 1862, Aug. 23d. Memoranda as to request of Mrs. Major Paul for appointment of her husband as Brigadier General. "She is a saucy woman and I am afraid she will keep tormenting till I may have to do it."
53. 1862, Sept. 27th. Memoranda; dismissal of Maj. John J. Key.
53. 1862, Sept. 29th. Endorsement Surgeon Gen. to allow Dr. Forsha to try his balm in Capitol Hospital.
53. 1862, Nov. 25th, Mrs. A. H. Hoge, in relation to her request for a staff appointment for her son.
47. Copy of extract from speech by Mr. Bright, December 18th, 1862.
26. 1862, Dec. 12th. Appeal to representatives and senators from the

Border States and their replies, in relation to gradual emancipation.

56. 1863, Jan. 9th. Hon. D. Wilmont: "I will do that." A. Lincoln.
56. 1863, Jan. 9th. Memorandum as to Senator Powell's demand that W. S. Prior of Newcastle, Ky., and J. O'Hara of Covington, Ky., now on parole at Cincinnati, be allowed to return to Kentucky.
56. 1863, Jan. 23rd. Memorandum request of the wife of Capt. John Green, for his brevet promotion.
56. 1863, Feb. 10th. Memorandum of Gen. Butler's request for appointment, Phillip Read, Military Academy.
56. 1863, Feb. 13th. Military Officers commanding in West Tennessee; urges relief of people of West Tennessee.
58. 1863, Feb. 21st. Memorandum, appointment of Surveyor General, Arizona.
- 1863, Feb. 26th. Appointment, Fourth Auditor of the Treasury.
47. 1863, March 7. Letters from Gen. Dix, Fort Monroe, having on the envelope these words: "Submitted to Mars & Neptune."
58. 1863, March 7th. Hon. B. F. Wade, requesting Senate committee to call that afternoon.
58. 1863, March 16th. Appointment of Chaplain, Hospital, Charleston, Va.
44. 1863, April 3rd. Hon. Charles F. Adams, Minister to England, introducing Prof. Sturtevant.
58. 1863, April 11. Truman Woodruff, Affairs in Missouri.
54. 1863, April 15. Secretary of War; restoration of Ezra Webb as Paymaster.
56. 1863, April 28. Criticising weather prediction.
54. 1863, May 9th. Secretary of War, asking upon what ground Dr. Worster has been arrested.
54. 1863, May 17th. Memorandum as to application of E. L. Kinney for second lieutenancy.
54. 1863, May 18th. Memorandum; recommendation of Hon. John S. Phelps for appointment of T. J. Bishop as provost marshal, Missouri.
29. 1863, June 13th. Letter to Hon. Erastus Corning and others, on the constitutionality of the arrest of Vallandigham. Also commendatory letters from Edward Everett, John C. Ten Eyck, Geo. Francis Train, Sam'l Dickinson, Roscoe Conkling, Francis Lieber.
30. 1863, June 28th. Draft of letter to Ohio Committee. Arrest of Vallandigham.
33. 1863, Aug. 30th. Opinion of the Draft Law.
56. 1863, Oct. 4. Copy of letter from John Hay.

- 57. 1863, Oct. 26th. Capt. J. M. Cutts; advice as to future conduct.
- 57. 1863, Nov. 7th. Capt. Isaac R. Diller's process for making gunpowder, memoranda.
- 57. 1863, Dec. 14. Hon. Samuel L. Casey, directing military and naval commanders to give him protection and safe conduct with specified number of steamboats, barges, etc., on trip, Cairo to Red River and its tributaries, and return.
- 59. 1863, Dec. 16th. Endorsement confirming views in letter of December 15th, to Dr. Cottman; Louisiana affairs.
- 57. 1863, Dec. 29th. Endorsement directing compliance, if it can be lawfully done, with requests of Governor Curtin for appointment of Lieut. W. S. Wilson as Assistant Adjutant General.
- Memorandum as to attitude of Baltimore in 1861 and in 1864.
- 60. 1864, Jan. 8th. Secretary of War; requesting papers and recommendations for appointment of G. M. Dodge as Maj. Gen. Edward Hatch and H. D. Caldwell as Brig. Generals.
- 63. 1864, Jan. 23rd. Letter of protection for C. F. Field and Christopher J. Clay (son of Brutus J. Clay) of Kentucky, in cultivating their plantations in Kentucky.
- 60. 1864, Feb. 13th. Rev. John Hogan; about Methodist order.
- 63. 1864, Feb. 25th. Endorsement, making appointment to see Mr. Bailey.
- 60. 1864, March 4. Letter to Gen. Rosecrans about extension of railroad.
- 60. 1864, Mar. 10th. Indorsement to Chief of Ordnance as to Amsterdam projectile.
- 60. 1864, Mar. 19th. Secretary of Navy; inquiring as to case of steamer *Volunteer* seized in November 1863 by Mississippi Squadron.
- 60. 1864, Mar. 24th. Judge Advocate General; directing examination and report upon case of Capt. John Hopper.
- 60. 1864, March 23. Secy of War about Gen. Newell and Long Branch R. R.
- 63. 1864, Mar. 24th. Endorsement on recommendation of Marqus Boyd for an appointment.
- 60. 1864, May 2nd. Order directing pardon of Alonzo Sheffield for desertion upon a good man being furnished by him and mustered into service for three years.
- 60. 1864, May 9th. Permit to Allison C. Poorman to trade within lines of the Western Army.
- 60. 1864, May 12th. Copy of report from Gen. Grant as to results of eight days' fighting. Teleg. copied by President.

- 64. 1864, May 18th. Endorsement, application for pardon of William Sherborn.
- 60. 1864, May 20. Memorandum; recommendation of Gov. Newell in behalf of Maj. Slack for commandant marine corps.
- 61. 1864, June 16. Opinion on poem.
- 61. 1864, July 1st. War Department, requesting report in case of John C. Underwood, political prisoner in Ft. Warren.
- 61. 1864, July 7th. Order releasing Col. Frank Wolford upon his parole of honor, pending trial.
- 61. 1864, July —. Discharging Col. Wolford upon his signing pledge that he will neither do nor say anything to hinder use of colored persons as soldiers.
- 64. 1864, July 19th. Letter from Thomas W. Price et al. July 20th. Memorandum of expression to Postmaster, Philadelphia, Aug. 5th. Letter to Hon. Morton McMichael. Action of Postmaster, Phila. Influencing employees against renomination of F. Kelly to Congress.
- 64. 1864, Aug. 6th. John McMahon, asking information whether he is white or black.
- 61. 1864, Aug. 15th. Surgeon General, directing examination and report upon private Michael Burns.
- 61. 1864, Aug. 31st. Surgeon General, directing examination of Private Joseph Laland.
- 47. Copy of despatch from Gen. Sherman. September 17th, 1864, about the draft.
- 64. 1864, Sept. 19th. Dr. Zacharie, expressing thanks for his interest in the Union cause.
- 61. 1864, Sept. 21st. Memorandum to Assistant Secretary of War; case of two citizens of Culpeper, confined as Guerillas.
- 64. 1864, Dec. 7th. Memorandum as to Gen. Banks' view upon certain appointments.
- 64. 1864, Dec. 7th. Removal of Secretary; Territory of New Mexico.
- 61. 1864, Dec. 22nd. Permit to Mr. James Harrison of St. Louis to pass military lines and return.
- 65. 1865, Jan. —. Endorsement disapproving judgment and sentence in a case, no names or other identification being given.
- 62. 1865, Jan. 9th. Madam —, agreeing to give her brother a pardon if her husband shall come within our lines and take the oath of Dec. 8, 1863.
- 62. 1865, Feb. —. Gen. Grant, confirming his action in stopping a Mr. Laws from passing our lines with a boat and cargo.
- 65. 1865, Feb. 2nd. Memorandum about Mr. Blair.

- 47. Extract from letter from Duchess of Argyle to Senator Sumner, March 2nd, 1865.
- 65. 1865, Mar. 9th. Memorandum as to complaint from Governor Swann and others in regard to officials in Maryland.
- 62. 1865, Mar. 15th. Memorandum of issue of pass south to Thomas B. Lincoln, on request of the Secretary of State.
- 64. 1864, May 31st. Endorsement in relation to Samuel McHose, Assessor Pennsylvania.
- 65. 1865, Mar. 16th. Governor Evans, as to propriety of his corresponding with Chairman of the Committee on Territories, in relation to territorial matters in Colorado.
- 47. Draft of address to Kentuckians (no date).
- 47. 1861/64. Baltimore conditions relatively.
- 48. Memorandum, unfinished, in reference to claim of the State of Illinois upon money derived from sale of United States Lands in that State.
- Memorandum for Act of Congress abolishing slavery in District of Columbia.
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